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THE TIMES

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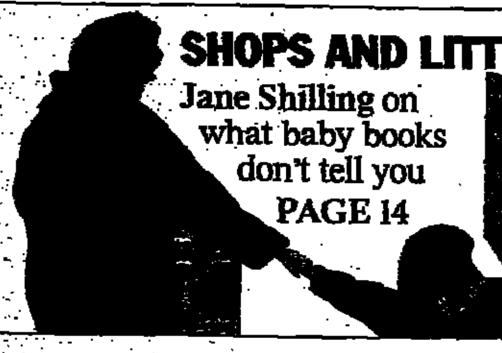

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VOTE FOR YOUR MILLENNIUM FAVOURITES
Let the people decide, says Alan Coren

Attack outrages business leaders

Labour 'front men' exposed by Heseltine

By Jill Sherman, Andrew Pierce and Philip Bassett

MICHAEL HESELTINE enraged some of Britain's top businessmen yesterday by accusing them of being front men for the Labour Party and of writing a politically motivated report.

Having demanded an invitation to speak at a conference to be addressed by Tony Blair, the Deputy Prime Minister insulted his hosts by claiming that the whole event was a "set up" to give the illusion that Labour had business support.

He then angered British Airways as well, by claiming that it had struck a deal with Labour to win exemption from its proposed windfall tax on privatised utilities.

Mr Heseltine made his allegations at a conference held in London to launch the report, *Promoting Prosperity*, by the Commission on Public Policy and British Business, whose members include the supermarket chief David Sainsbury, the British Aerospace chairman Bob Bauman, the GEC managing director George Simpson, and Sir Christopher Harding, chairman of Legal & General, which regularly contributes to the Conservative Party.

The report came out in support of a minimum wage, the Social Chapter of the Maastricht Treaty, British participation in a single European currency and an independent Bank of England with the freedom to set interest rates.

But Mr Heseltine denounced it as politically motivated and said: "I question the motives of those who cloak their political intentions with academic respectability."

"Typical. Every time we have a business forum this happens"

He also attacked the left-leaning Institute of Public Policy Research, which commissioned the report and hosted the conference, claiming that it was deliberately trying to give the impression that Labour was supported by businessmen when this was clearly not the case.

"This is a front for the Labour Party," he said. "This event is designed to give the impression that Tony Blair is speaking to an audience of commercial men and women. The trouble is that most of them are from the public sector, the media and admen."

Mr Heseltine also irritated both British Airways and Labour with his remarks about the proposed windfall tax. "We read that British Airways have escaped the net," he said. "I've heard that there is no such thing as a free lunch. Evidently, if you work at it, there can be free dinners." Mr Blair has had a number of dinners with leading industrialists, including Robert Ayling, chairman of British Airways, — but both sides denied last night that any deal had been made.

Mr Heseltine, who telephoned the institute last week demanding a slot at the conference to express the Government's view, later told BBC Radio 4's *PM* programme that he had been determined to expose the political leanings of the conference. "I could see the set up to give Tony Blair an apparently clear run. It would have been presented as an independent exercise. It wasn't," he said.

But Professor George Bain, the head of the London School of Business and chairman of the policy commission, was "*flabbergasted*" by Mr Heseltine's allegations. "I regard it as an insult to myself and to my colleagues to be branded a front organisation for the Labour Party," he said.

Professor Bain and fellow members of the commission later wrote to the *Financial Times* describing Mr Heseltine's remarks as "a piece of political knockabout". Rejecting the suggestion that the commission was trying to "curry favour" with Mr Blair, the letter went on to say: "We were rather surprised at his comments, given that the commissioners are drawn from across the political spectrum and represent all sectors of British business. We have no party political agenda: our aim is simply to promote British prosperity."

RUSSELL BOYCE/REUTER

Heseltine: "Event is designed to give the impression that Blair is speaking to commercial men and women"

Commission sources said that while they had expected Mr Heseltine to disagree with some of their recommendations, they were surprised that he had chosen to attack in such personal terms business leaders who had created considerable wealth for Britain. And one member said: "Michael Heseltine has been right to stress the importance of competitiveness. Our report addresses that issue in a serious way. It deserves better, from someone who ought to know better."

Professor John Kay, director-designate of the School for Management Studies at Oxford University and one of the authors of the report, said: "Michael Heseltine has been silly. I have not decided who I will vote for at the election. But if Mr Heseltine continues to publicly assert that I am a stooge for the Labour Party, then I will vote for the Labour Party."

Adair Turner, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, also dismissed the Labour "front" claim, saying: "I don't think that is how one should look at this report. It's a serious report. We don't agree with everything in it, but it's important to be able, despite the political situation we are in, to respond critically but constructively to a serious report like this."

Even the Institute of Directors, the free-market business body, took a similar line. Its head, Tim Melville-Ross, was critical of a number of the reports proposals, but he examined it fully and welcomed some recommendations as constructive.

Commission profiles, and Matthew Parris, page 2
Peter Riddell, page 9

Blair: Tory anger stole his thunder

Whitehall lapse let UK firm sell arms to Hutus

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

AN OFFICIAL inquiry has found that the Government failed to implement all the requirements of a United Nations arms embargo on Rwanda, thus allowing a British company to supply weapons to extremist Hutu militia.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, admitted in a written Commons answer yesterday that the UN arms embargo was not implemented in the Crown dependencies, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands. It was from the Isle of Man that the Mil-Tec Corporation masterminded the supply of military equipment worth more than £3.3 million to Rwandan militia in Zaire during the Rwandan genocide in 1994 — as disclosed in *The Times*.

The sale of arms was uncovered after papers were found in eastern Zaire when Hutu militia fled refugee camps there.

The Government announced last November that it had established an inter-departmental committee to see if there had been a gap in arms-trafficking controls. Mr Rifkind said that the lapse, which also included a delay in implementing the embargo in the dependent territories such as Gibraltar, Bermuda and Hong Kong, had been put right last month. A committee had also been set up to coordinate the imposition and lifting of embargoes.

Customs investigators were still seeking to establish whether there had been any illegal acts "coming within the UK's jurisdiction", he said.

Tony Loyd, Shadow Foreign Minister, accused the Government of gross incompetence: "The Government has failed to provide adequate explanation of why it did not extend the arms embargo against Rwanda to the Isle of Man."

MP is taken from hospital to vote

A seriously ill Conservative MP was brought to the Commons from his hospital bed last night as the Government battled to avoid a defeat at the end of a health service debate.

Charles Goodson-Wickes, the MP for Wimbledon, complained about the decision by whips to bring him to Westminster two days after undergoing abdominal surgery.

Millwall set for administration

Millwall will be placed in administration this morning, becoming the first quoted football club to collapse. The club, which was relegated to the Nationwide Second Division last year, has £10 million of debts and is losing £3 million a year. The club will continue to play........Page 25

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Tories lose Lords vote on gun law

By James Landale
Political Reporter

THE Government suffered a fresh defeat in the House of Lords last night when peers voted to pay compensation to gun clubs forced to close as a result of Michael Howard's new firearms legislation.

The Government had been prepared to pay only market value compensation worth about £150 million for large calibre handguns and their accessories, which will be made illegal by the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, introduced after the Dunblane massacre.

Shooters' associations said that if the defeat stood, the Government would have to pay millions more in compensation.

The Lords voted by 158 to 135, a majority of 23, in favour of an amendment backed by Lord Swansea, the chairman of the British Shooting Sports Council, and many other Tory peers. The Home Secretary suffered a double defeat in the Lords on Monday over plans for police bugging powers.

However, the gun amendment is likely to be overturned when the Bill returns to the Commons. A similar amendment was defeated by MPs when the Bill first went through the House.

A second amendment last night, giving compensation to anybody who suffered loss as a result of the Bill, was defeated by 147 to 120, a Government majority of 27.

'Lowbrow' Del Boy gets it in neck from schools guru

By David Charter, Education Correspondent

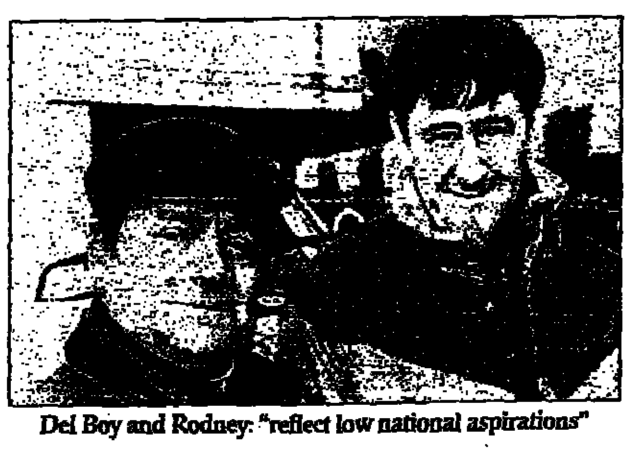
DEL BOY and Rodney, the stars of *Only Fools and Horses*, were singled out yesterday as prime examples of the lowbrow culture undermining school standards.

Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, said that the stars of the BBC comedy, which attracted British television's highest audience yet, 24.35 million, at Christmas, were poor role models and their popularity reflected low national aspirations.

Another example of low cultural expectations was the choice of *The Lord of the Rings* as the nation's favourite book of the century, Mr Woodhead added. J.R.R. Tolkien's fantasy epic came top of a poll by Waterstone's, the booksellers, and Channel 4; the result dismayed Germaine Greer and other academics because writers such as Somerset Maugham and J.B. Priestley were overlooked.

Mr Woodhead, in response to questions after a lecture in London on raising standards, said that it was the job of teachers to try to instil greater discernment. Parents and society generally also had to help to promote more edifying works instead of blaming teachers for failing to raise standards. "What was the most popular programme over Christmas? What is the most popular book? If *The Lord of the Rings* is our favourite book, what is it saying about our attitude towards quality in the arts?" Mr Woodhead asked.

"English teachers ought to be trying to develop discrimination. *The Lord of the Rings* is an immensely readable book, but it is not the greatest work of English literature this century. Schools function within society and it is naive to blame schools for all social wrongs. I am at times pessimistic about cultural expectations and social support for teachers. If Del Boy and Rodney are the only role models available to the young, then we have problems."



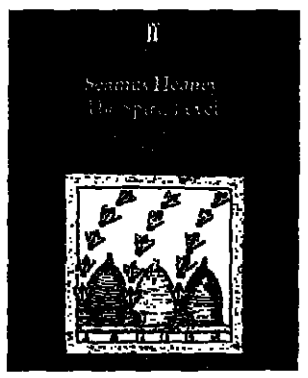
Del Boy and Rodney: "reflect low national aspirations"

Mr Woodhead's views echoed those of Dr Nick Tate, the Government's most senior curriculum adviser, who called last year for more Mozart and less Blur on schoolchildren's CD players.

A spokesman for John Sullivan, the writer of *Only Fools and Horses*, said: "If he [Mr Woodhead] watched *Only Fools and Horses*, he would know they went to a terrible school. However, they strive to be happy and they have good family values."

A BBC official said: "*Only Fools and Horses* is written by the top comedy writer in this country, if not the world, and the levels of performance and production values are excellent. It is popular programming and its aim is to entertain, so I don't see what Mr Woodhead is on about."

The Lord of the Rings was defended by Malcolm Bradbury, Professor Emeritus of American Literature at the University of East Anglia: "It has a very special cultural value. It is a book that crosses the magic line between childhood and adulthood."



Collection was the first for five years

Whitbread prize goes to Heaney

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

THE £21,000 Whitbread Book of the Year award went last night to poet Seamus Heaney, who received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1995.

He received it for his first new collection for five years, *The Spirit Level*, surprising many in the literary world, who had felt convinced that the novelist Beryl Bainbridge was going to win for *Every Man for Himself*.

The chairman of the judges, Malcolm Bradbury, said that it had been a "tightly fought decision" and hailed Heaney as a "poet of poets".

The other finalists were John Lanchester, whose *The Debt To Pleasure* won the first novel award, and Diarmaid MacCulloch, whose *Thomas Cranmer: A Life*, won of the biography category.

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Baby of reason is thrown out with the bathwater of farce

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

DURING the Prime Minister's recent Asian tour, mused Tim Rathbone (C, Lewes), "does he recall seeing a beautiful and rare flower, *Rafflesia anoldi*, parasitic in nature, with no stem or root, which with its vines embraces any handy shrub or tree?"

The mental image of Tony Blair as some kind of a political orchid cracked frozen faces even on the Opposition side. "Plant!" shouted delighted Tories, but if the question had been planted, someone had forgotten to tell the Prime Minister: John Major seemed stumped for a reply. Not for the first time, it was the slightly too clever question from his own side, intended helpfully, that unsettled Mr Major.

He had no trouble yesterday with questions from the other side. Tony Blair took three kicks at the Government's management of the NHS, but ended up stubbing his toe.

As so often happens with Blair's and Major's spats these days, the two men yelled at each other for about four minutes, one offering one proposition, the other another: those propositions being, on closer inspection, consistent with each other.

Tony Blair said that children in need of intensive care beds were being "turned away" from hospitals. John Major insisted that no child in need of a bed had been refused one. The two statements are easily reconciled by a third: that where a bed is unavailable in one hospital, it is offered in another.

Neither Blair nor Major was prepared to articulate this obvious truth. It is insufficiently cheerful for the Government and insufficiently hysterical for the Opposition. So we had a ridiculous shouting match which, on this occasion, John Major won — by pointing out, to some effect, that if Mr Blair really believed that there was an NHS crisis, it was odd that he would not commit himself to increasing NHS funding.

At this point, the Baby returned to haunt us. We intend no disrespect to this baby or its parents, whose ordeal must have been terrible. Blame the politicians, who have turned a real infant into a political football, lending its ordeal a note of farce.

The Baby first made its Westminster appearance on MPs' first day back in the new year, when a backbench Labour MP raised with Madam Speaker (under Points of Order) reports that a baby had been turned away from a hospital in the North East and had been sent to Edinburgh, 120 miles away. Madam Speaker was unable to help.

The next day another Labour MP raised the Baby with Michael Heseltine at Prime Minister's Questions (John Major being away). Mr Heseltine, having been given no details, was unable to help either.

Yesterday the Baby was back. Its journey to Edinburgh was recounted to the Prime Minister by David Clelland (Lab, Tyne Bridge). Your sketchwriter cannot be certain that this is the same Baby, but the story sounded familiar. Mr Major pointed out that if Mr Clelland had wanted a useful reply, he would have given him advance warning of the case.

To Edinburgh — once — and (we hope) back, the Baby has now made three visits to Westminster. Nor, I fear, have we heard the last of it. Heaven send us the general election soon.

In the meantime, we watched Teresa Gorman (C, Billericay), in precautionary blue, outlining her mutinous plans for a Euro-referendum. Listening on the front bench below the gangway sat Sir Edward Heath, absolutely immobile, his face an image of frozen rage such as one might observe on some portly Roman senator caught in mid-pout by a deluge of Vesuvian ash at Pompei.

The 'socialist' business leaders who are revealed to be solid Conservative supporters

Heseltine branded 'silly' for stooges gibe

By Andrew Pierce and Alasdair Murray

Chris Harding

John Kay

George Bain

Jan Hall

SOME of the captains of industry accused by Michael Heseltine yesterday of being stooges for the Labour Party have voted Conservative all their lives.

None of the 15 members of the Commission on Public Policy and British Business, which wrote a report critical of the state of the British economy, can have been more surprised to have been associated with the socialist cause than Sir Christopher Harding, the chairman of Legal & General insurance company.

Sir Christopher, 57, drew a veil over his political affiliations yesterday. But a spokesman for his company said: "We have regularly donated money to the Tory party. In 1995 we gave £30,000. Sir Christopher is not Labour."

Sir Christopher was indeed regarded as one of Margaret Thatcher's favourite businessmen when she was Prime Minister, and was her choice as chairman of British Nuclear Fuels with a remit to prepare the industry for privatisation.

He is also a long-term director at Hanson, formerly run by the vocal Thatcher supporter Lord Hanson.

Professor John Kay, director-designate of the School for Management Studies at Oxford University, said that the Deputy Prime Minister had been "silly". He said: "Until the advent of new Labour I would have been astonished to have been associated with the Labour Party because I voted Conservative. I have not decided who I will vote for at the election. But if Mr Heseltine continues to publicly assert that I am a stooge for the Labour Party then I will vote for the Labour Party."

Professor George Bain, the principal of London Business School, who was chairman of the team of authors, said he was "the original floating voter". He had come here from Canada in 1963 and been naturalised and had never been a member of a British political party. "I have voted for all of them and have yet to make my mind-up who I will vote for next time."

He has a string of directorships including with the the Economist Group.

Mr Heseltine was on firm ground with his description of some members of the commission, an offshoot of the Institute for Public Policy Research, as Labour Party members. Gerald Holtham is the director of the institute and is close to Tony Blair.

However, Lord Hollick, the chief executive of United News and Media, who made a working peer by Neil Kinnock is the only out-and-out Labour supporter drawn from the business world who sat on the commission. His *Express* remains pro-Tory, despite rumours that it would shift its line.

David Sainsbury, who chairs the family founded supermarket chain, is one of the richest men in the country with a fortune estimated at more than £1.25 billion. Mr Sainsbury almost single-handedly bankrolled the Social Democratic Party party, but has maintained his interest in politics since that party's demise through support for think-tanks such as the centrist Social Market Foundation, of which he is patron, and the IPPR. He also supports aid work and charity projects through his Gatsby Charitable Foundation.

Mr Sainsbury revealed that he was too disillusioned to vote at the last election but said more recently that he will vote for Tony Blair — if he votes at all this time. In contrast, cousin Tim Sainsbury is a Tory MP and former minister.

Bob Bischof, the former chairman of Boss Group, has been described by the *Financial Times* as the best known German businessman living in Britain, his home for 30 years. He served for a spell with Truhand, the German government agency charged with the privatisation of East German state assets and now, in retirement, is working on a book describing a German's view of the current state of Britain.

He said: "I am not a front for anybody. I am offended by the comments of Michael Heseltine." He laughed off the suggestion that he voted Labour. "I have a German passport. I in fact support Helmut Kohl in Germany who most people here would regard as a Tory. I am not a politician. I am an economist and businessman."

Jan Hall, the European chief executive of GGT Group, who is a former Veuve Cliquot Businesswoman of the Year, was also surprised by Mr Heseltine's comments. In 1996 she was made an OBE by John Major in recognition of her work for the Department of Trade and Industry.

"I am incensed," she said. "I was an admirer of Margaret Thatcher and voted for her," she said. "I now regard myself as a centrist.

"The only reason I agreed to become involved in this exercise was because I was assured it had no partisan political invovlement. It is there for the benefit of a Liberal Democrat government if they win the election." Other members of the commission include George Simpson, the managing director of GEC, who has not voiced any views on government policy recently. Bob Bauman, the Harvard educated chairman of British Aerospace, is an American who has not made an issue of any political allegiances.

Left-wing thinkers who took on Thatcherism

By Andrew Pierce

THE Institute for Public Policy Research, which was at the centre of the row with Michael Heseltine yesterday, has never made any secret of its political leanings.

It was set up as an independent charity in 1988 on the orders of Neil Kinnock, the then Labour leader, to try to challenge the intellectual dominance of the free-market think-tanks spawned by the Thatcher years.

The left-leaning intelligentsia had finally bitten back. Its founders were Clive Hollick the multimillionaire chief executive of MAI, who was made a Labour life peer in 1991, and Baroness Blackstone, the Master of Birkbeck College.

Lord Hollick, a generous donor to Labour Party causes, is a director of British Aerospace and owns the Express group of newspapers. Lady Blackstone, one of the Labour Party's leading intellectuals, has a frontbench role in the House of Lords. She has been tipped for Cabinet office under Tony Blair.

The left-wing think-tank is unashamedly new Labour even down to its headquarters in a fashionable corner of Covent Garden. Its funding is provided by wealthy party sympathisers.

The trustees include Robert Gavron, a close friend of Mr Blair, who has been named as a donor to the blind trust that funds the Labour leader's office. He is also the chairman and proprietor of the Folio Society.

John Edmonds, the general secretary of the GMB trade union, who is no longer part of the Labour leader's inner-circle, is also a trustee. But he is a powerful force within the trade union movement.

Other trustees include Patricia Hewitt, a Labour Party parliamentary candidate, who was Mr Kinnock's press secretary. Gail Rebuck, chief executive of the publishers Random House, is another close friend of Mr Blair. She is married to Philip Gould, the advertising and polling expert, who is regarded as Labour's answer to Sir Tim Bell.

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean, newly elevated to the Lords as a Labour working peer, was head of the First Division Association of Civil Servants. She is an adviser to Mr Blair and has clashed twice with Michael Heseltine over the alleged politicisation of the Civil Service.

Lord Eatwell, who was made a Labour life peer in 1992, was an economics adviser to Mr Kinnock when he was party leader. Charles Clarke, who was Mr Kinnock's chief of staff and is now a parliamentary candidate, is another leading light.

Lord Donoughue was the chief of staff at Downing Street in the last Labour government.

Jeremy Isaacs, the former general manager of the Royal Opera House, who is a noted Labour sympathiser, is another trustee along with Alan Jinkinson, the general secretary of Unison, one of the biggest trade unions. Professor David Marquand, who was a founding member of the Social Democratic Party but has since returned to the Labour Party fold, is also a trustee.

Redwood condemns calls for European smartcard

From Leyla Linton in Brussels

THERE was a marked lack of enthusiasm in Britain last night for the proposed introduction of a European smartcard that would act as an identity document, driving licence and electronic purse.

It is possible that the card, proposed by MEPs and supported by the European Commission and several member states, could be introduced alongside a single currency. It could carry personal information and, eventually, could be used as a passport or even as a house key.

British MEPs have contributed to the proposals, to be published in detail next month. John Stevens (C, Thames Valley), who contributed to a report by the European Parliament's monetary affairs sub-comittee, said the basic proposal was for the European Central Bank to issue a standard bank card at the same time as the launch of the euro, but that the card could also be turned into an ID card.

"If we had ID cards, the issue of frontier controls would be irrelevant," he said, pointed out that a bank card with built-in ID would also be very useful.

However John Redwood, the former Tory Cabinet minister and leading Eurosceptic, said: "I am strongly against this proposal. This card would not be a positive move for Britain." He added: "It is not right for Europe to take responsibility for other nations' internal affairs. We are an island and we should keep it that way."

Atiya Lockwood, a spokeswoman for Liberty, said the smartcard would raise issues of whether people would be required to carry it, or effectively be barred from using a range of services and goods if they did not have one.

Government officials immediately poured cold water on the proposal, which is more far-reaching than the plan for a voluntary identity card that the Government has already been shelved. "This will not be supported here," one Whitehall spokesman said.

Mr Stevens said: "We are trying to kick-start the debate and bring it out into the open. We would hope that the report would prompt the European Monetary Institute to show their hand on the subject."

France, Germany, The Netherlands, Spain and Italy are already considering ways of upgrading their citizens' identity documents. Private sector companies and banks keen to avoid fraud would promote the card, according to Mr Stevens. "It is not a question of using taxpayers' money." A recent Green Paper on introducing ID cards in Britain put the cost at £600 million.

Extra test for dangerous new drivers

Drivers who accumulate six penalty points within two years of passing their test will be forced to put back their L-plates and take it again from June. The idea has been law since 1995, but the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency did not have the funds to administer it until now.

Ministers may expel loyalists from talks

By Nicholas Watt, Chief Ireland Correspondent

LOYALIST terrorists were warned by the Government yesterday that their political representatives, may be expelled from the Stormont talks after a series of bomb attacks on Catholics.

In a marked toughening of its position, the Northern Ireland Office said that recent loyalist bombings "inevitably raise questions" about the position of the political parties linked to the terrorists.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, had insisted until yesterday that the loyalist ceasefire remained intact even after terrorists tried to murder two prominent republicans in Belfast and Londonderry.

But ministers decided to register their unease about the loyalist ceasefire after terrorists tried to murder a Roman Catholic couple and their baby girl in Larne, Co Antrim, on Monday. John Shaw, 37, and his girlfriend, Adele Burly, 25, escaped when a bomb exploded under their van.

Ministers will face calls for the Progressive Unionist Party and the Ulster Democratic Party, the political wings of the Ulster Volunteer Force and the Ulster Defence Association, to be expelled from the Stormont talks when the first plenary session of the year is held on Monday. The British and Irish Governments can expel any party if its members have breached the Mitchell principles of non-violence.

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Doctor quizzed on murder struck off for dishonesty

By Glen Owen and Carol Midgley

A HEART surgeon who was questioned about the murder of his former flatmate three years ago was struck off yesterday after the General Medical Council heard that he had "wriggled and squirmed and lied" in his personal and professional affairs.

Glenworth Cummings, 34, was suspended from the doctors' register in June 1995 after he was convicted of forging the signature of former classmate and gynaecologist Dr Joan Francisco, 27.

Dr Francisco was the main prosecution witness at his trial at Knightsbridge Crown Court in October 1994 and had rigged herself up with a tape recorder to record his admissions that he had used her name on the mortgage application for a flat in Hampstead, north London, and to try to buy a Jaguar XJS car.

She was found murdered in her north London flat on Boxing Day 1994. She had been strangled with a vaccum cleaner cord.

Her body was found at the bottom of her stairs and her bedroom had been ransacked. It is believed she was killed while packing for a holiday in Los Angeles where she was meeting her sisters.

Mr Cummings was immediately questioned by police. In a statement not read out at his original trial she had alleged that he had spied on her while she was undressing while they were sharing a house. Nobody was charged with her murder and Mr Cummings, who was never arrested, was later ruled out as a suspect.

Rosalind Foster, of the GMC, yesterday told the professional conduct committee of Mr Cummings' tangled financial affairs since his conviction. She said that since the committee had suspended him in June 1995, three new irregularities had emerged.

Mr Cummings had claimed he was employed as a cardiologist at the Royal Brompton Hospital and the National Heart and Lung Institute while applying to Selfridges for a credit card, she said. He also gave false addresses and false information about his employment on two credit card applications on October 8 and 19 last year, to Sears Financial Services, she said.

They secured credit for Mr Cummings which otherwise would not have been granted. He also gave false employment details to two medical agencies with whom he was seeking work. Jane Schuck, a placement officer with Medacs Health Care Services, which places locum doctors, told the hearing she had received a telephone call from Mr Cummings saying he was ready for work even though he was still suspended.

Miss Foster said he had been "persistently dishonest" adding: "The public deserve to rely on the absolute integrity of doctors. You have a doctor before you who has continued to wriggle, squirm and lie, not only in his personal affairs but also in relation to his professional practice."

The conduct committee ordered his name be removed from the register after finding him guilty of making dishonest statements. He has 28 days to appeal.

The committee found him guilty of dishonesty with regard to the Selfridges credit card and the phone call to the locum agency earlier this year, claiming that he had worked at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, for a period of time.

It also found that he had misled the committee over whether he had signed a cheque for nearly £17,000 to a loan company in respect of the proposed purchase of the Jaguar car.

Miss Foster outlined Mr Cummings' debts. She said he still owed £104,000 on the mortgage and £14,000 on the Jaguar car, along with a £4,000 overdraft at Lloyds Bank and £4,500 in legal fees for his failed appeal against his suspension.

Despite this, she said, he had recently bought a watch worth nearly £2,000.

Questioned on his "expensive tastes" Mr Cummings said: "How much you pay for a watch depends how long you want it to last."

At the hearing Mr Cummings conceded he had been foolish. "I accept that I have rather made a mess of things," he said, adding that he realised the seriousness of his position. "One does not come to a committee like this without reflecting on the sequence of events that has brought one here. I realise that my career is in jeopardy."

He made no comment as he left the hearing.

Dr Joan Francisco was found dead after giving evidence against surgeon Glenworth Cummings

EVENING HERALD, PLYMOUTH

Brink of danger: father and son talk on the Tamar Bridge. Police did not know the father had arrived until they saw a middle-aged man edging his way along

Father risks life on ledge to talk son out of suicide

By Joanna Bale

A FATHER risked his life by walking along a slippery girder 138ft above a river yesterday to stop his suicidal son from jumping. The drama ended as the two men hugged.

Police negotiators had tried without success for two hours to persuade the 26-year-old son to climb back to safety from the foot-wide ledge on the Tamar Bridge at Saltash, Cornwall. The depressed man was taunted with cries of "Jump" from onlookers and passing drivers.

Officers had not dared to venture on to the ledge because it was so slippery from the rain. The 53-year-old father arrived and immediately climbed out to the rescue without consulting the police. The two spoke, then hugged and climbed to safety.

The bridge is so notorious for suicide attempts that the Samaritans are hoping to put up an advertisement at either end. In the past five years, ten people have jumped off and eight have been killed.

Acting Sergeant David Cartwright of Saltash police praised the courage of the father, who is not being named to protect the identity of his son. Sgt Cartwright said: "This was a very difficult situation because the man was perched on a very narrow, slippery ledge with his legs hanging over.

"He was in an extremely agitated state and refused to speak to us for quite a while. We tried to build up some kind of rapport but he was not communicative and it did not help that a crowd gathered below and some passing drivers wound down their windows and shouted 'Jump!'.

"We were trying to calm the lad down but he was right on the edge. He was not mentally ill but he had personal difficulties which he had not been able to talk to anyone about. It seems he had the type of problems which a lot of young people have today — no job, no prospects, and no girlfriend.

"The conditions were against us. It was very windy and very cold. Even when the lad turned round to talk to us, we could barely hear what he was saying. We were up there for almost two hours.

Alive: helped back to reach safety

"We tried to gain his confidence and eventually he gave his name and we managed to fetch some family friends. Somehow his father heard about what was going on but we did not realise he had arrived until we saw this man shuffling along the girder.

"None of us had gone down there. The lad was in such a state that if we had climbed over, he would probably have jumped and the ledge was also extremely narrow and slippery because it was drizzling.

"It was very brave of the father to go down there and we were very worried about his safety. One slip and both of them could have fallen to their deaths.

"He was trying to get his son to hold his hand and then he hugged him and within minutes they both climbed back to safety. "The father was so worried about his son's safety that I don't think he gave a second thought to his own."

Grobbelaar's friend sought to destroy him

By Lin Jenkins

THE man who made allegations that Premiership football matches had been fixed admitted yesterday that he turned on his friend Bruce Grobbelaar and set out to destroy him after their business collapsed.

Christopher Vincent also admitted that he stood to make a fortune if any of the three footballers on trial for allegedly rigging results was convicted of the crime. Mr Vincent, a chief witness in the trial at Winchester Crown Court, will net at least £76,000 from a book deal with the publishers Macmillan and about £100,000 from a television company if the goalkeeper, John Fashanu or Hans Segers are found guilty.

The contract for *Betrayal of Trust: The Inside Story of the Biggest Scandal in Sporting History* includes a clause making payment and publication dependent upon the sentencing of those convicted.

Mr Vincent, who was declared bankrupt with debts of £98,820 in March 1995, has also entered a deal with Samuel Kersh, an agent, to sell serial rights and handle potential film and television deals.

Rodney Klevan, QC, for Mr Grobbelaar, said to him: "It is in your interest to try and secure a conviction against one or more of these men."

He asked Mr Vincent: "It is payment by results, isn't it?" Mr Vincent replied: "Yes sir."

Mr Vincent had a series of business failures to his name. Three companies had ceased trading before he set up Mondoro Ltd to provide holidays to his native Zimbabwe and recruited his countryman Mr Grobbelaar as an investor.

Mr Vincent, who was paid £35,000 for selling his story to *The Sun* and luring Mr Grobbelaar into agreeing to act for a fictitious ring of gamblers from the Far East, lived off the £65,000 which Mr Grobbelaar invested in the company.

Mr Klevan said that, after the failure of the venture, "you turned like a viper on him".

Mr Vincent: "That's correct."

Mr Klevan: "Because there was money still to be made?"

Mr Vincent: "That was not the reason."

Mr Klevan: "Mr Vincent — you will destroy your friend by lies, not by truth, as long as you can make your money."

Mr Vincent: "That is not true."

Mr Klevan: "It is true you seek to destroy him."

Mr Vincent: "Yes sir."

The hearing continues.

Put me back in prison, says man bored with bail

By Bill Frost

A FIREMAN released from jail on bail pending an appeal became bored with life on the outside, knocked on Brixton prison's front door and begged to be allowed back. A cell was found for him but five days later officials discovered that they had no right to hold the man.

Led to freedom once more, David Watson, who is appealing against a threatening behaviour conviction, decided to ask his lawyers to help him to be locked up legally, Southwark Crown Court in southeast London was told.

Abiud Kaihiva, his counsel, explained: "He became aware he was suspended from his work and instead of wasting away his time without doing anything he felt the best thing to do was to serve the remainder of his sentence."

Martin Latiffe, for the Crown, who said he had never come across such a case before, told Judge Jackson that Watson was now making a formal application for his bail to be rescinded. Watson was found guilty at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court of threatening behaviour at a nightclub and jailed for three weeks just before Christmas.

He gave notice of appeal and six days later was granted bail. But the fireman decided that life on the inside was better than on the outside and duly returned for a further spell of bed and board at Her Majesty's Pleasure.

However, after passing several apparently contented days behind bars, Watson, whose appeal is due to be heard next month, was told he had to go. "Someone realised they had no right to keep him because he was effectively still on bail. It had not been rescinded and he had not breached it," Mr Latiffe said.

As if being thrown out of prison was not bad enough for him, it has since emerged that his voluntary return to Brixton was wasted "porridge" and could not count as part of his sentence if he lost his appeal.

The judge, refusing to rescind Watson's bail, said: "You can't have somebody volunteering to go to prison in circumstances where he has a live appeal ... that is an odd combination." He could not allow Watson's plea "simply because he wants to do something with the spare time he has got at the moment".

Watson, from Mitcham, Surrey, then once again reluctantly walked to freedom.

Male motorists begin to admit that the driver in front is a woman

By Jonathan Prynn
Transport Correspondent

WOMEN drivers have earned the respect of all but the most die-hard chauvinists. Since 1988 the proportion of men claiming that they are better drivers than women has fallen from 35 per cent to 24 per cent last year, according to the ninth annual Lex report on motoring.

Over the same period the proportion of women who believe they are better drivers than men has risen from 45 per cent to 54 per cent. Overall, 31 per cent of motorists now think women are superior motorists, compared with just 8 per cent nine years ago. About 40 per cent of British drivers are now women. "Perhaps more male drivers should learn from their female counterparts who have fewer accidents and a more responsible driving attitude on our roads," Sir Trevor Chinn, the chairman of Lex Services, said.

Overall, the survey of 1,209 drivers found that a third believe that driving standards in Britain are bad or very bad, although three quarters rate themselves as good drivers or better. Only one motorist in 100 rates their own driving as poor.

Seven out of ten drivers admit to at least one case of poor driving in the past year. The figure was far higher among men and the young than among women and the elderly.

Incidents of "road rage" are also multiplying, the survey reveals. An estimated 275,000 people a year have their cars deliberately hit by other road users and about 130,000 a year are physically attacked. Almost three quarters of drivers confessed to feelings of rage, with just over half having verbally abused or gestured at another driver.

The report also found that "more speed cameras with fines if more than 20mph over the limit" would be the measure most likely to improve driving, with nearly a half of regular speeders saying they would slow down.

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SATURDAY

IN THE TIMES

BRAGG ON AMERICA

Melvyn Bragg on the end of a special relationship *in* **Weekend**

GREEK DELIGHTS

Four-page travel special on the best of Greece *in* **Weekend**

Home Secretary prepared to allow Labour amendment on prior approval for bugging

Howard may accept compromise to salvage Police Bill

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

MICHAEL HOWARD is considering a compromise to ensure that the Police Bill gets through the Commons after the Lords voted against his plans for the bugging of suspected criminals' homes.

The Home Secretary is expected to table amendments that go close to accepting Labour's demand that chief constables get approval from special commissioners before surveillance operations go ahead, rather than after.

However, he wants to make it clear that the police will still be able to go ahead without approval in emergencies. Labour says its amendment, passed by the Lords on Monday night, already makes that provision, but Mr Howard seems certain to insist on greater clarity. He is also likely to reject the Liberal Democrats' call for circuit judges, rather than judicial commissioners, to give approval.

Mr Howard spoke on the telephone yesterday to Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, about ways of taking the Bill forward. Mr Straw, who is expected to have further talks with Mr Howard, declined to disclose details of the conversation. However, he said: "I believe that, provided the Government accepts the spirit of the amendment from Labour, which was approved by such a large majority in the Lords yesterday, cross-party understanding will be possible."

Labour sources claim that the front bench tabled its amendment in the Lords in the knowledge that chief constables have said privately that they could live with the proposal for authorisation by commissioners. Twenty-nine Tories and ten past and present law lords, among them Lord Bingham of Cornhill, the Lord Chief Justice, were among the 209 peers who voted for the Labour amendment. They then backed the Liberal Democrat call for authorisation from a circuit judge rather than a judicial commissioner.

In the Commons yesterday, John Major said the changes made by the Lords were "unsatisfactory"; the Labour and Liberal Democrat amendments were "contradictory". But he added that Mr Howard would reflect on the views expressed, and added that intensive surveillance could only be used in investigating serious crime when no other method was possible.

Letters, page 17

PAUL HACKETT

Michael Howard talked on the telephone yesterday with Jack Straw about taking the Police Bill forward

Hundreds of transcript notebooks lost

By Stewart Tendler

THE national criminal intelligence centre is to tighten controls on police telephone tapping records after 900 notebooks with details of sensitive transcripts went missing.

Albert Pacey, director-general of the National Criminal Intelligence Service, admitted yesterday that the notebooks should have been destroyed but denied corruption had taken place or investigations were harmed. The notebooks vanished between 1985 and 1995.

Under police rules, detectives make notes of transcripts at a centre for replaying tapes. Their notebooks are booked out in a ledger and once a case is over the notebooks are destroyed.

But Mr Pacey said missing files started to come to light when police in 1995 discovered John Donald, a London drugs squad officer, had some notebooks. An inquiry was ordered to uncover lost notebooks.

A year-long national hunt by a team of detectives led by John Stevens, an Inspector of Constabulary, accounted for the vast majority of books. The inquiry cost up to £1 million. Mr Stevens's inquiry found hundreds of blanks in the ledgers. The notebooks were supposed to be used only by senior officers but junior officers had gained access. His officers interviewed 396 current and former detectivess and found notebooks left in offices, garages and homes.

Mr Pacey said scores of recommendations in a confidential report by Mr Stevens had been taken up by the National Criminal Intelligence Service.

Mr Donald and a retired officer who was officially in charge of the notebooks were reported to the Crown Prosecution Service but no prosecution is to take place.

Never mind the January sales, here's the latest round of BT price cuts.

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Five minute international call to	Time of day	Before Feb 19th	From Feb 19th	Percentage reduction	Price with Friends & Family and PremierLine
Sweden	Daytime	£2.28	£1.43	37%	£1.07
	Evening	£1.93	£1.34	30%	£1.00
	Weekend	£1.80	£1.17	35%	87.6p
USA/Canada	Daytime	£1.49	£1.19	20%	88.6p
	Evening	£1.41	£1.13	20%	84.2p
	Weekend	£1.31	£1.05	20%	78.2p
France/Germany	Daytime	£1.78	£1.43	20%	£1.07
	Evening	£1.49	£1.34	10%	£1.00
	Weekend	£1.30	£1.17	10%	87.6p
Australia/ New Zealand	Daytime	£2.73	£2.45	10%	£1.84
	Evening	£2.33	£2.10	10%	£1.58
	Weekend	£2.21	£1.99	10%	£1.49
Nigeria	Daytime	£6.56	£5.26	20%	£3.94
	Evening	£5.53	£4.95	10%	£3.72
	Weekend	£4.95	£4.45	10%	£3.34
Israel	Daytime	£5.68	£3.98	30%	£2.98
	Evening	£4.59	£3.67	20%	£2.76
	Weekend	£4.25	£3.38	20%	£2.54

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The secret signals intelligence centre at Cheltenham

GCHQ signals readiness to help overcome organised crime

■ **Security sources say the technological resources of the Government's signals intelligence centre can be used to monitor major criminals. Michael Evans reports**

THE Government's secret signals intelligence centre is ready to play a decisive role in combating organised crime, security sources said yesterday.

The part played by Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), based in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, in helping police, Customs and the security agencies to tackle serious crime is seldom recorded. However, as the Government struggled yesterday to win Opposition support for its Police Bill, aimed at giving the police powers to "bug and burgle" suspected organised criminals without the need for prior judicial authorisation, sources said its huge technological resources were available to assist law enforcement agencies.

GCHQ's principal function is to provide signals intelligence support for military operations. It played a crucial role in assisting British military commanders in the Gulf War and, currently, in the peacekeeping operation in Bosnia-Herzegovina where more than 5,000 British soldiers are serving.

Although GCHQ is constrained by the tasking requirements set by the Cabinet Office's Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC), it is permitted under the 1994 Intelligence Services Act to deal with organised crime, especially where international criminal godfathers with transnational operations threaten the security of this country.

The security sources said that while GCHQ was principally involved in "outward" (overseas) eavesdropping operations, it had the capability and the authorisation to listen "inwards" when its major customers, such as the police and Customs, sought its help in monitoring the activities of criminals.

One senior security source said: "This is still only a small proportion of GCHQ's work, which is mainly aimed at overseas, but it has the technological skills that could make a difference in tackling organised crime."

The JIC, whose membership includes David Omand, the new director of GCHQ who took over in July, has not yet ordered the eavesdropping centre to increase monitoring operations against organised criminals.

However, organised crime is now regarded as one of the growing threats to the security of this country which will increasingly involve every law enforcement and security agency. MI5 now has officers attached to the National Criminal Intelligence Service who are empowered, under the 1996 Security Service Act, to tackle organised crime where it affects national security.

Under Mr Omand, formerly a senior official at the Ministry of Defence, GCHQ has acquired a sharper and more Whitehall-attuned reputation. After dealing with ministers for so long as an MoD official, Mr Omand is aware of ministerial sensitivities and has emphasised to his staff of specialist scientists and engineers the importance of being flexible in the new post-Cold War era.

Under the Intelligence Services Act, GCHQ can be authorised by the Secretary of State to eavesdrop on criminals involved in organised crime that threatens the security of the state. Although GCHQ comes under the political aegis of the Foreign Secretary, one security source said: "Secretaries of states are indivisible."

In other words, requests for GCHQ assistance could come from the Home Office or other Government departments, who would merely be expected to liaise with the Foreign Secretary before authorisation is given.

GCHQ is spending a large proportion of its estimated £500 million annual budget on computer equipment to keep pace with the rapid advances in communication technology. Digital mobile phones, used by organised criminals and terrorist organisations, have presented a major but not insurmountable challenge.

The Cheltenham centre is also embarking on a comprehensive reorganisation. Under the previous director, Sir John Adye, now retired, moves were made to reduce the workforce of about 6,000 — including outlying stations at home and abroad — to 4,500 by the end of the century.

Prawn-flavoured carrots will put better health on menu

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

TYRANTS in their cots who have half the family dancing a jig in an attempt to get them to go to sleep are no more amenable when they sit at the dinner table. Recent studies by the Cancer Research Campaign show that parents are defeated by their young children when it comes to getting them to eat vegetables.

Children not only win the battle of the greens when they are toddlers, but the entire war, as they are no more likely to eat their vegetables when they go to school than when they were in their high chair. All too commonly doctors witness an overwrought mother trying to coax or bully a tearful child into eating boring, sometimes even disgusting, helpings of vegetables.

The immediate thought is that few adults would have eaten them either and that no self-respecting chef would have dreamt of serving them in a restaurant.

Children's tastes may be unschooled and underdeveloped but they can tell the difference between tired, old, hard peas and sweet, fresh peas cooked with a little sugar and butter and served as their parents would expect. Potatoes mashed with a trace of skimmed milk do not compare with those laced with butter or cream.

So determined are modern mothers not to provide any excess fat with their children's diet that they make nourishing food inedible, when in fact it is necessary to bring out the taste of food and to provide lubrication so that it may be swallowed easily.

The cancer campaign is concerned because there is increasing evidence of a close link between the anti-oxidant powers of fresh vegetables and a reduction in the incidence of cancers, yet the intake of vegetables is low in many parts of Britain.

Gordon McVie, director general of the Cancer Research Campaign, has said that it is likely that a diet rich in vegetables and fruit cuts the number of cases of cancer of the colon by a third and may well influence the number of stomach and lung cancer cases. It has even been suggested that tomatoes may protect against cancer of the prostate.

The dietary habits inculcated in childhood can last a lifetime. If children are allowed to subsist on junk foods, they will miss out then and in later life on the anti-carcinogenic antioxidants contained in vitamins C and E, beta carotene and folic acid, as well as in all the carotenoids.

Professor McVie has one other message to parents and school caterers. Frozen vegetables are much more health-giving than those which have languished at the greengrocers for days. Keeping greens for three days reduces their vitamin C content by half. To achieve the maximum health benefit, vegetables should be cooked straight from the garden or freezer.

Professor McVie is so concerned that children no longer enjoy vegetables that he has asked Malcolm Walker, the chairman and chief executive of Iceland Group, to undertake research to find flavourings that could make the broccoli or cauliflower more tasty.

Professor McVie reasons that if a cheese and onion flavour can be added to crisps, why not similar or other flavours to boring vegetables? Carrots could easily be made to taste of prawn cocktails and cauliflowers of roast beef and mustard.

Mr Walker initially had his doubts but then remembered that mint-flavoured peas are one of Iceland's bestselling lines. He has agreed to co-operate and hopes to have the first of Professor McVie's flavoured range of vegetables ready for trial within a week or two.

Leading article, page 17

Telephone codes to switch again after exchange fails

By Daniel McGrory

EIGHT million telephone users were told yesterday that they would need new numbers, barely two years after being promised that they would never have to change again.

London and other cities are already running out of numbers. Oftel, the telephone regulator, said that the new codes would be introduced during 1999 and run in tandem with existing numbers for at least a year. Oftel says the change will produce eight billion new numbers, meeting demand until at least 2015.

Seven million subscribers in London will be among the first to change. Business leaders yesterday complained that the cost and upheaval would come so soon after the switch to the 01 prefix, on "PhONEday" in 1995. Industry leaders estimate that it could cost £3 billion in printing, stationery, and reprogramming computers. The Telephone Users Association said: "Somebody did not do their homework properly so we face more disruption, and the numbers just get longer." Bill Mieran, the association's chairman, said: "We trust this change lasts a long while and we don't hear more excuses in a couple of years."

Labour called for the suspension of Don Cruickshank, Oftel's Director-General, pending an inquiry by the Commons Trade and Industry Committee into what it called a renumbering shambles. To his embarrassment, Mr Cruickshank was reminded of his remarks in 1995 when he introduced the 01 prefix: "You will not have to change your number again in your lifetime."

Oftel officials tried to explain that "things have changed since then. Users weren't happy with our last proposals so we had to change again to create more numbers." Yesterday Mr Cruickshank said: "Of course it looks messy. I have learned over my four years in this job that numbering is a lot more complicated than I thought."

He insisted that the change followed an "exhaustive three-month consultation process" with industry, local authorities, MPs and consumer groups. The change was designed to be "future-proof". He said that BT, which had begun changing numbers ten years ago, had done nothing wrong technically but should have "consulted and communicated more".

"This is the final stage of something that was started in the late Eighties," Mr Cruickshank said. "We had to release 01 in 1990 from London numbers, and then used 01 in 1995 to put all the geographical numbers in the country behind it."

Nigel Griffiths, Labour's consumer affairs spokesman, said that Oftel had ignored warnings during "the 01 switch" that this would not create enough new numbers for fax and Internet lines and that there would have to be another expensive upheaval. He said Oftel should pay for any changes.

BT said that it had seen the final proposals only yesterday and that "Oftel's forecasting was not what it should have been", adding: "Customers need to know this will definitely be the last change".

The London Chamber of Commerce was "annoyed and dismayed" by yet more disruption. Simon Sperryn, its chief executive, said: "This shows that PhONEday was nothing more than a stop-gap. With more foresight, these second changes in 18 months could have been avoided."

The Consumers' Association is calling for good publicity about the new numbers, and assurances that they will last well into the next century.

Mercury — the country's second-largest phone provider — supported Oftel's proposals. The Telecommunications Managers' Association "congratulated" Oftel on "developing a stable framework for the future".

RINGING THE CHANGES

New telephone codes will be introduced in 1999 and run in parallel with existing numbers for at least a year.

London will be reunited by popular demand under one code, 020. But the 0171 and 0181 prefixes, which Oftel says will have no further capacity in three years, will still feature as all London numbers become eight-digit. So 0171-634 8700 changes to 020-7634 8700, and 0181-295 2100 becomes 020-8295 2100. Those in London will not have to dial 020.

Northern Ireland changes to an 028 code, with two or three digits added to the current number so 01232 926222 becomes 028-90 926222 and 016625 34567 will become 028-850 34567. The Province asked for a unified code.

Cardiff becomes 029 with the prefix 20 also added to the current number: 01222 926222 becomes 029-20 926222. There is also an option for an all-Wales code.

Portsmouth and Southampton will have 023, followed by 92 for Portsmouth and 80 for Southampton. Thus Portsmouth numbers will change from 01705 92622 to become 023-92-926222 and Southampton numbers such as 01703 926222 will become 023-80 926222.

Oftel is reserving 05 for **corporate numbers**, allowing businesses to adopt a single number for branches across the country.

By 2001, **mobile phones** and **pagers** will all be bracketed under 07 so callers will know they will be paying a higher rate.

REMY DE LA MAUVINIERE

A classic Chanel embroidered white jacket, matching gloves and long black skirt

Lagerfeld holds the classic line at Chanel

By Heath Brown

AFTER two days of Parisian fireworks from the British designers Alexander McQueen and John Galliano, with their elaborate couture presentations for Givenchy and Dior, Chanel's traditional salon show at the Ritz Hotel was refreshingly sedate.

The timeless setting was the perfect location for the classic creations of Chanel's haute couture collection. Karl Lagerfeld, chief designer at Chanel, knows his customers well and gives them exactly what they want: vintage Chanel.

Palazzo trousers and white organza shirts started the show off in classic Riviera fashion. Early 1930s styles true to the original spirit of Coco Chanel appeared in signature collarless tweed jackets, simple separates, finely beaded empire-line dresses and picture hats.

Large feather ballroom skirts, a pink marabou lounge suit and feather-on-a-stick headbands by the top British milliner Phillip Treacy provided notes of drama in a show that otherwise epitomised the simple chic expected from Lagerfeld and Chanel.

Kiki Feraud, daughter of Louis Feraud, the retired French designer, took off in the opposite direction, fastening gold hardware bibs on African motif crêpes and rows of brass buttons on a blue bell-bottomed jumpsuit.

Late-night radio DJ to take over Evans hot seat

By Peter Barnard and Alexandra Frean

Radcliffe: will present show from Manchester

THE appointment of the disc jockey Mark Radcliffe as the replacement for Chris Evans on Radio 1's flagship breakfast show will be confirmed on Friday.

The decision will catapult Radcliffe from the relative obscurity of Radio 1's late-night indie music and comedy slot into the hot seat of British radio, with a weekly audience of seven million. He will present the show from Manchester, the first time that a flagship Radio 1 show has been broadcast from outside London.

Evans will be a hard act to follow. Over the past two years his spontaneous babble and on-air antics have succeeded in reversing the seemingly unstoppable slide in Radio 1's ratings. Since his arrival the station has gained about 800,000 listeners.

Radio 1 refused to comment on the appointment yesterday, saying only that Evans's successor would be announced on air by the disc jockey Simon Mayo, who is standing in for Evans. Evans announced last week that he would be leaving the show at the end of March because Matthew Bannister, Radio 1's Controller, refused to allow him to work a four-day week. When Evans failed to turn up for work on Monday, the BBC agreed to release him from his contract immediately.

Radcliffe, 38, whose eclectic musical taste has earned him the label of "the new John Peel", worked with Evans at Piccadilly Radio, a Manchester commercial station, and the two men are friends. Radcliffe is said to have once saved Evans from disciplinary action at the station when he interceded with the management when Evans accidentally wiped the tape of an interview with Bob Geldof after Live Aid.

For three years Radcliffe has presented a two-hour show on Radio 1 at 10pm four nights a week. Although he currently gets Fridays off he is expected to front the breakfast show five days a week.

Radcliffe also presented Channel 4's music show The White Room, which is highly regarded for having the maximum of music and minimum of chat. Evans presents TFI Friday on Channel 4, the commitment which precipitated his request to Radio 1 to take Fridays off.

Radcliffe's appointment will herald a reshuffle at the station, allowing Peel to return to presenting a mid-week show for the first time in three years. Jo Wiley is epected to take over the lunch-time slot from Nicky Campbell, and Dave Pearce will present the drive-time show.

Footballing chef wins the double

By Robin Young

GLASGOW Rangers' loss is the restaurant trade's gain. Catering's fastest rising star was originally destined for a midfield career with the Scottish champions.

In a new edition of the red *Michelin Guide to Hotels and Restaurants*, published today, the most significant changes are the second star won by Gordon Ramsay for the Aubergine Restaurant in Fulham, west London, and a first for the L'Oranger, opened last year in St James's, southwest London.

After leaving full-time education, Mr Ramsay had a professional contract with Glasgow Rangers, and played for the first team on a couple of occasions. He decided to opt for a career in catering instead.

His is the only new two-star award in the new edition of the Michelin Guide. There are a total of nine new one-star awards.

Yesterday Mr Ramsay's staff at Aubergine said that he was "over the moon".

EU helps Scots lift kilt-making skills

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

A SCHEME to teach Scots how to make kilts, a garment many would argue was originally designed by an Englishman, is being funded by the European Union.

The Keith Kilt School in the town of Keith in Moray, the only kilt school in Scotland, has received about £200,000 from the European Union, which will be matched by the local council and enterprise body.

Students who complete the year-long course will qualify for the first diplomas in kilt-making from the Scottish Vocational Education Council. An industry-wide Scottish National qualification in kilt-making is planned.

The school was the idea of master kilt-maker Robert McBain, who set it up when the traditional woollen industry was hit by the closure of several mills. Mr McBain, a former Gordon Highlander who taught kilt-making to the regiment's soldiers, says he has had an enormous amount of interest in the school, some of it from America.

He said much of the skill in making a kilt was in the marking and cutting. "There are about 3,000 tartans on the market all with different widths and set sizes and all presenting their own problems for kilt-makers."

David Sykes, of Moray council, who has been closely involved in the project, said it became apparent that while the market for hand-made kilts was growing, there were fewer people who knew how to make them.

The origin of the kilt is a contentious issue. The word kilt was first used in the 18th century. In Gaelic the word is *fealeadh*, with *fealeadh mor* describing an untailored plaid wrapped around the body and *fealeadh beg* describing the tailored version from waist to knee.

The *Edinburgh Magazine* of March 1785 claimed that the kilt was invented by Thomas Rawlinson, an English Quaker who ran a smelting works in Scotland. He is said to have persuaded his workforce to dispense with the upper part of the *fealeadh mor* in favour of the less cumbersome short kilt.

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11.4%	£17,500	179.68	198.03	240.27	379.79
	£15,000	154.01	169.74	205.95	325.54
	£10,000	102.67	113.16	137.30	217.03
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£10m child abuse inquiry to question 180 alleged victims

By Russell Jenkins

CHILDREN living in care homes in North Wales during the 1970s and 1980s were subjected to physical and sexual abuse "bordering on wholesale exploitation", a public inquiry was told yesterday.

At least ten of the alleged victims have since died. Most were known to have killed themselves because they could not bear to live with the consequences of the abuse they suffered from people entrusted with their care.

Up to 180 alleged victims are due to give evidence to the North Wales Tribunal of Inquiry which began its investigations into the "seemingly endless series of allegations" of abuse of children emanating from a small number of homes. Numerous complaints involve two homes in Wrexham, Bryn Estyn, run by the council, and the privately-run Bryn Alyn. Peter Howarth, deputy head of Bryn Estyn, was jailed for ten years in July 1994 for sexual assaulting eight boys.

The tribunal, held in former council offices in Ewloe, Flintshire, and chaired by Sir Ronald Waterhouse, a former High Court judge, is expected to last a year and cost up to £10 million.

Gerard Elias, QC, counsel for the tribunal, said members were determined to uncover the truth and promised to find out whether more could have been done by the local authorities, the North Wales Police or the Welsh Office to prevent the abuse or detect it earlier.

William Hague, the Welsh Secretary, announced the inquiry last June at the personal insistence of the Prime Minister after persistent rumours that the homes had been in the grip of a national paedophile ring, whose activities were linked to public figures.

Investigations by North Wales Police resulted in eight prosecutions and six convictions for criminal offences. There were numerous internal inquiries, culminating in the 300-page Jillings report commissioned by Clywd County Council. But that still failed to dispel the "utmost disquiet".

Mr Elias, said that in this climate truth had been allowed to coexist with rumour and innuendo. The tribunal will determine whether there was any evidence of a "greater organisation or infiltration by those with a determination to exploit vulnerable children in care".

He said: "The overwheming response by the tribunal interview team has been that complaining was not a real option. It brought no relief but risked yet worse treatment." He said questions will be asked over whether the level of funding from government and local authorities played a role in the quality of care.

Mr Elias, added: "If, as a whole, or in substantial part, they [alleged victims] are accepted by the tribunal, then it may be that they will compel the conclusion that children in care in Clwyd and Gwynedd during the period under review were abused physically and sexually on a scale that borders on wholesale exploitation."

The tribunal was told that, although some files are missing, they have records for 9,500 of the 12,000 children in care during the 20-year period in question. The inquiry has identified 650 complainants.

Mr Elias said it would seem an inescapable conclusion that, should abuse be proved, senior people in the social services were at best careless as to the plight of their charges and, at worst, negligent to the point of gross professional incompetence, or even guilty of deliberately shutting their eyes. Local authorities had often seen the numerous inquiries only as an embarrassing inconvenience.

Sir Ronald made a ruling forbidding identification of either the alleged abusers or the abused, except for those who have been prosecuted and convicted. He said that public exposure could deter potential witnesses.

Cash-starved hospitals 'forced to discharge violent mental patients'

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

VIOLENT mentally ill people are being discharged from hospitals as fast as possible to make room for other dangerous patients who are on the streets, the author of a new study has said. The crisis in psychiatric care is worst in London, where nearly half the inquiries into killings by mental patients have been carried out in the past ten years.

The capital needs at least an extra £60 million a year to provide 400 new acute beds for the seriously mentally ill, the King's Fund, an independent research charity, said.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, announced after meeting the report's author, Professor Sir David Goldberg, that he was diverting £30 million to London this year, mainly from shire counties and affluent suburbs. However, it will have to be shared between all parts of the NHS.

Professor Goldberg, director of research and development at the Institute of Psychiatry, said that it was a "disaster" that no part of London had the desired level of mental health provision. "What the service has done is to concentrate on acute inpatient care of people who are violently disturbed," he said.

"It has to throw people out as soon as it possibly can so it can admit the disturbed people who are on the pavement outside. The situation is intolerable."

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART, WASHINGTON
HERMITAGE, ST PETERSBURG

Gathered from East and West: *Portrait of a Young Man* by Hals and *The Holy Family* by Poussin

Masters of the world reunited from the spoils of power and empires

By Marcus Binney

GLITTERING prizes of power have returned to London after more than two centuries of changing hands with the world's fortunes. This time they are on public show.

The collection of Old Masters was amassed by England's first and long-serving Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole, in the early 18th century. His descendants sold 181 paintings to the Russian empress Catherine the Great. In the 1920s, Russia's new Communist rulers sold three to America to raise hard currency.

Now Russia, America and Walpole's modern descendants, the Cholmondeley family, have co-operated in an exhibition that reunites some of the pictures at Kenwood House in Hampstead, north London. Parts of the collection were first hung together in the capital when Walpole was given 10 Downing Street to be his residence.

Andrew Moore, the exhibition's curator, acknowledges that suggestions of 18th-century sleaze may be in order over the wealth of the man who held office from 1721 to 1742. Walpole himself had told visitors at the House of Commons that "every man has his price". Mr Moore said: "When he was later impeached, Walpole destroyed large quantities of his papers."

After he fell from power, Walpole took his pictures to his palatial new house, Houghton Hall in Norfolk, where they remained until 1789 when his family made the sale to Russia for the then staggering sum of £40,000 to clear his vast debts.

Art lovers of the time described it as a huge loss to the nation. In the House of Commons, John Wilkes MP, better known as the champion of free speech, pleaded that the collection should be acquired to form a gallery where young British artists could study.

The exhibition entitled *Houghton Hall: the Prime Minister, the Empress and the Heritage*, evokes the splendour of Walpole's patronage and collecting. It involves a rich selection of furniture, sculpture, prints and paintings.

Three spectacular canvases have been brought back from the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg — including *The Holy Family* by Nicholas Poussin — and another three have been brought from the National Gallery of Art in Washington — including *Portrait of a Young Man* by Frans Hals.

Also on show are paintings that Walpole's descendants acquired to fill the empty wall space at Houghton.

The Hermitage paintings are displayed in richly ornate, gilt Russian frames, inscribed with the names of artists in Latin and Cyrillic letters. Ian Dejardin, Kenwood's senior curator, said: "The Poussin was so heavy, I thought it would pull the house down." Two stout pedestals now help to carry its weight.

The exhibition starts tomorrow and runs until April 20. The Russian press corps were strongly in evidence at the preview. A reporter from *Pravda International* commented: "The director of the Hermitage Museum, Dr Piotrovski, has been unfairly under attack, particularly in Germany, for mounting exhibitions of long-hidden works of art seized from the Nazis. This exhibition shows him for what he really is, a great and generous scholar opening up a new era in loans from the Hermitage."

Walpole: hint of sleaze and a legacy of debt

Scientists lend a hand to swat flies

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

THE ability of flies to avoid being swatted could prove to be their Achilles' heel, researchers at Sussex University believe.

Flies can react to an approaching hand with stunning speed because of a brain structure called the giant fibre. This ribbon-like cell responds to the threat by rapidly triggering the parts of the brain that activate jumping and flying.

Studies of how it works have raised the possibility of a new kind of insecticide aimed at disabling the fly's instant reactions. Such a flykiller would have the advantage of being harmless to other creatures, including human beings.

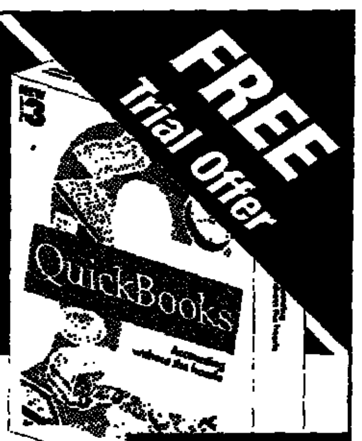
The giant fibre is fast because it communicates electrically, rather than through chemical intermediaries as do other brain cells. Current flows through the fibre so quickly that the fly is on the move and out of range before the swat lands.

While a typical human being takes about a quarter of a second before the hand moves in response to something seen by the eye, the fastest insects are moving in a matter of a few thousandths of a second.

Pauline Phelan, of the Sussex Centre for Neuroscience, and her colleagues are studying a strain of fruit fly that is easily swatted. As a result of a genetic defect, these flies cannot make a protein that is apparently responsible for establishing the electrical connections between the giant fibre and other cells in the circuit. The Sussex team aims to prove this by introducing the gene into isolated cells.

Higher animals have similar proteins, but their amino acid sequences are quite different. This indicates that invertebrates and vertebrates may have evolved different ways of producing proteins that perform similar functions.

If so, it may be possible to design pesticides that selectively block the process in insects without having any effects in other creatures, Dr Phelan said. With their escape mechanisms disabled, the flies would be grounded, easy prey for even a gentle swat.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Back in bed together after snore cure

Worcester Evening News

Separate bedrooms and ear plugs will never cure his snoring.

This new procedure to eliminate snoring could mean an end of nightly torment for snorers and their partners. It's simple and straightforward, and often involves no more than one 15-20 minute session. As Kean Clifford found to his surprise, it's no different to a short visit to the dentist.

Like one third of the adult population and one in ten women, Kean Clifford snored. In fact, he snored so loudly and so persistently, it drove his wife into the spare bedroom.

Sadly, for the millions of snorers, this is a common story. But it gets worse. What starts out as joke soon leads to sleepless nights, rows, bitterness and, in many cases, even divorce.

And for the partners of snorers, ear plugs and other so-called remedies do little to end the nightly torment.

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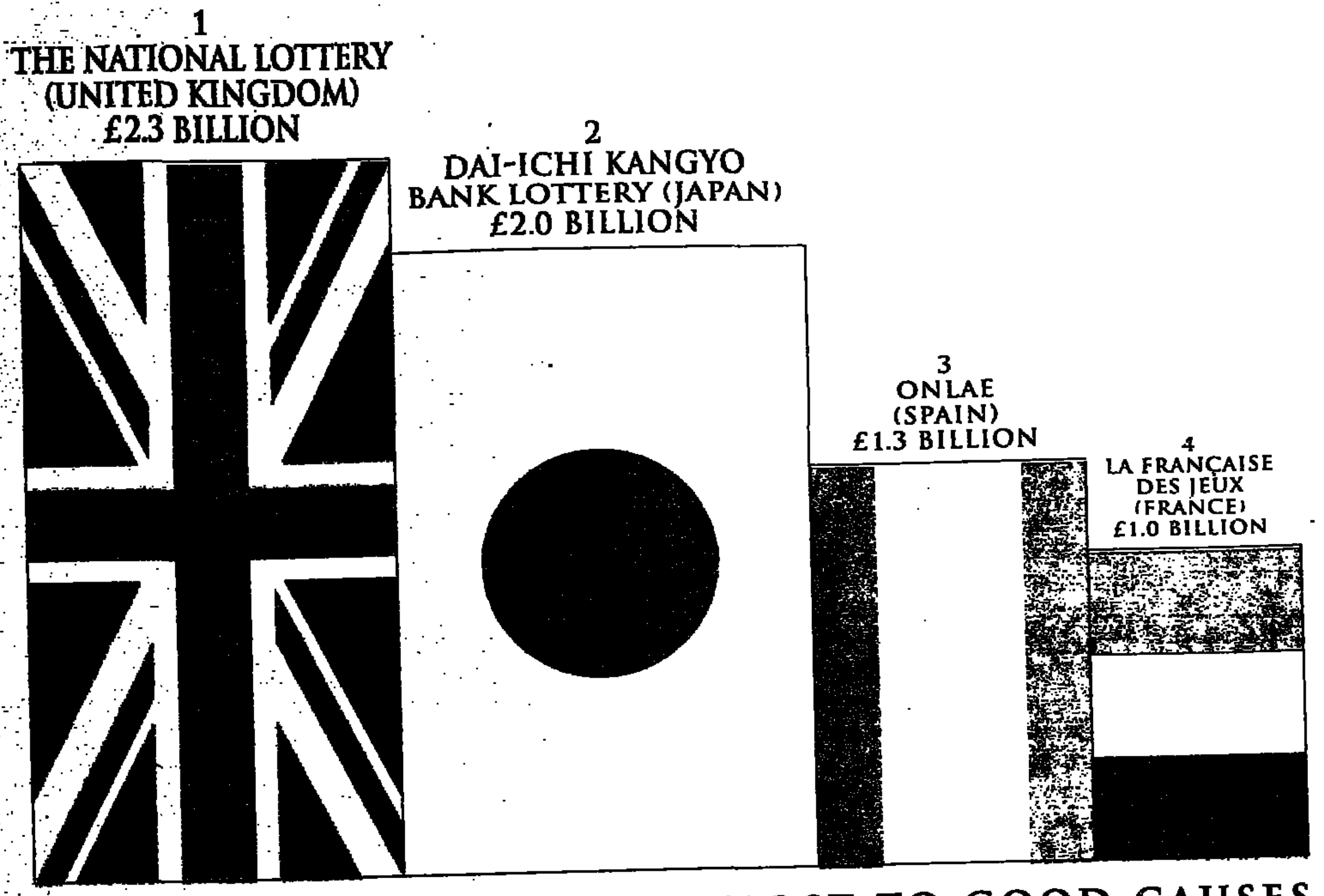

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Last memories of the Titanic go down with oldest survivor

Edith Brown shortly before setting sail on the *Titanic* with her parents: her father, Thomas, drowned

By Tim Jones

THE oldest survivor of the *Titanic* disaster, who celebrated her 100th birthday in October, has died in a nursing home in Southampton, from where the great ship sailed on her maiden voyage in 1912.

Edith Haisman was 15 when the *Titanic* struck an iceberg while crossing the Atlantic to America, claiming 1,523 lives. Her abiding memory was of her father, who drowned, standing on deck with a brandy in one hand and a cigar in the other. He waved and shouted: "I'll see you in New York." Mrs Haisman and her mother, Elizabeth Brown, were among those who found a lifeboat.

Mrs Haisman was the last of the surviviors able to remember events clearly, the five others being too young at the time. Last year she sailed to the spot where the pride of the White Star Line slipped beneath the waves to lay a wreath in her father's memory. She said: "As we were walking up the gangplank, my father had a presentiment. He turned white. He had some sort of idea that something was going to happen."

When the ship struck the iceberg, she said, "at first there was no panic because everybody was so stunned by what had happened. They didn't realise the *Titanic* was sinking. Nobody did. Most of the men jumped overboard into the sea. Those who could swim swam and those who could not swim sank. There was no hope for anyone."

The departure of the *Titanic* from Southampton on her first and final voyage

Kim Key, Mrs Haisman's granddaughter, said yesterday: "She always loved to chat, and on and off would talk about the *Titanic*. She didn't remember it with as much grief in her latter years." She said her grandmother had lived in South Africa with her mother and her father, Thomas Brown, until he decided to move the family to America. "They came to England to buy linen and cutlery for the hotels they were going to open and they booked the last three second-class berths on the *Titanic* because there were no first-class cabins left. They didn't bother insuring anything because it was only a four-day trip, so they lost everything."

Mrs Haisman returned to South Africa, where she met her husband, Frederick. They married when she was 19 and they were together for 60 years before he died in 1976. She had ten children and is survived by four sons, two daughters and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

One of her daughters, Dorothy Kendle, said that her mother had another close call at sea during the Second World War. She, her children and other passengers were ordered to lifeboat stations while sailing to South Africa. "Everyone there remembers Edith as the calmest person on the ship. She had been through it all before."

Drugs crackdown set off rioting at top security prison

By Paul Wilkinson

A CRACKDOWN on drug abuse among prisoners probably sparked 12 hours of rioting that caused damage estimated at £500,000 in a top security prison.

The rampage in two wings at Full Sutton prison near York ended early yesterday when more than 100 specially-trained prison staff stormed makeshift barriers built by the inmates. One person, a prisoner, was slightly injured.

Two wings at the prison were seriously damaged as prisoners wrecked everything apart from their cells, flooding communal areas and lighting small fires. Washing machines and dryers were destroyed, snooker tables smashed, and furniture and fittings in communal areas and offices ripped out and broken.

The disturbances began when several prisoners were moved out last week after minor trouble over drugs in one wing. Yesterday Prison Service staff were putting emergency lighting into the two wings as 146 prisoners were moved to 23 other prisons in England and Wales.

One hundred cells at the jail will be unusable for up to three months, at a time when the number of prisoners nationally is predicted to reach 60,000 by March and the service is desperately seeking extra accommodation in prisons on ships and a former holiday camp.

Prison officers in riot gear entering a damaged area. A hundred cells will be unusable for up to three months

Full Sutton, which opened ten years ago, holds some of the country's most dangerous criminals, including IRA and Middle East terrorists, serial killers and drug barons. It is one of the five top security jails in England and Wales.

Stan Walpole, chairman of the Prison Officers' Association at the jail, said: "It seems that drugs could well be behind it. Closed-circuit television was installed in the visiting area five months ago and that has cut the quantity getting in, as have the statutory random body searches. People who had built up little empires inside have lost some of their position and they don't like it."

He said he did not know if any IRA prisoners had been involved in the violence "but not much goes on in there without their knowledge and approval".

Richard Tilt, the Director-General of the Prison Service, travelled from London to examine the scene and talk to senior staff. "There was no indication that any trouble was developing, although there is some evidence of pre-planning in that there was communication between the two wings involved prior to the incident," he said.

"There was a full-scale riot inside those two wings and a tremendous amount of damage has been done. It is deplorable that this should happen in what is a good, well-run, modern prison."

JOHN GILES/PA

Richard Tilt surveying part of a wing wrecked by rioting inmates at Full Sutton prison. *Damage is put at £500,000*

The trouble began on Monday in B wing, shortly after the men had eaten their final meal of the day at 6pm. Some refused to return to their cells to be locked in for the night.

A series of minor incidents followed, including tables being turned over and equipment broken. At least one small fire was lit. Then prison officers were threatened and one was pelted with snooker balls. Soon after prisoners in C wing joined in.

Ronald Tasker, the Governor, took the decision to evacuate the area before his officers were injured. Reinforcements from other neighbouring jails and the police were summoned to Full Sutton.

Electrical fittings were pulled from the walls and plumbing ripped out, allowing water to flood to a depth of several inches in some places. Windows were smashed, doors — including one large steel-barred gate — were torn from their hinges and anything breakable was broken.

Several small fires scorched large areas of the walls and ceiling and a large blaze in an office burnt with such ferocity that a toughened polycarbonate window melted and ran down the wall.

Early yesterday officers equipped with protective clothing including helmets, shields and flame-proof overalls moved first into C wing. It took them more than two hours to dismantle the barricades and then they found that most of the inmates had retreated into the habitable cells. By 3.30am they had all surrendered without a fight. A similar operation in B wing was completed by 6.30am.

Almost three years ago Full Sutton was severely criticised by Judge Stephen Tumim, then the Chief Inspector of Prisons, who said it was in "total anarchy" and "inmates held the upper hand". Since then a tightening of security inside prisons has returned control to the staff.

The jail narrowly averted trouble 14 months ago when a Home Office incentive scheme was introduced. It rewarded prisoners with privileges in return for good behaviour, but many resented having to earn rights such as access to pay phones, which had been freely available.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mother of missing girl protests innocence

The mother of Zoe Evans has publicly denied that she was involved in the nine-year-old's disappearance in Warminster 11 days ago. Paula Evans, 28, and her husband Miles, 23, were released without charge on Sunday after questioning. Richard Griffiths, Mrs Evans's solicitor, said she "emphatically says she is innocent. She hopes against hope that Zoe is alive."

Conmen clean up

Hundreds of restaurants and hotels have been tricked into sending cheques to an address in Kensington, west London, after receiving letters claiming that their staff had spilled food or wine on customers over Christmas. Dry-cleaning costs of £8 to £12 were demanded.

Expectant Eigg

The islanders of Eigg expect to learn within days whether the Heritage Lottery Fund will support their bid to become the new owners of their remote Hebridean home. Lottery trustees met in London yesterday to consider plans for a community buy-out.

Sculptor chosen

Rachel Whiteread, the sculptor best known for *House*, her cast of an east London terraced house, is to represent Britain at the 47th Venice International Biennale of Art this summer. Her current commissions include a Holocaust memorial for Vienna.

Grave disturbed

A brick vault in a churchyard at Birtle, Greater Manchester, has been broken open and the head of a woman left on the footpath. It was reinterred by an undertaker and prayers were said for the deceased and her family, who have been informed.

Gillick libel win

Victoria Gillick won five-figure libel damages at the High Court over a suggestion that she was morally responsible for two girls' suicides through her campaign on under-age sex. The BBC and journalist Susan Pearce said the claim was unintentional.

Boxing gym KO

A boxing gym over a pub, where Muhammad Ali, Sugar Ray Leonard, Henry Cooper, Jack Dempsey and Rocky Marciano trained, has shut. Phoenix Inns closed it after finding a buyer for the Thomas à Becket in the Old Kent Road, southeast London.

Goon man dies

Dennis Main Wilson, the radio and television comedy producer behind classics such as *The Goon Show*, *Hancock's Half Hour*, *The Marty Feldman Show* and *Till Death Us Do Part*, died from cancer in Guildford yesterday, aged 72. Obituary, page 19

Assault claim

A 25-year-old British soldier serving with the UN is pressing charges of homosexual assault against a Cypriot barman in the coastal resort of Ayia Napa. A man aged 32 was detained for questioning after a fight broke out and the soldier was taken to hospital.

Light relief

A power cut failed to stop St Edmund's Players' production of *Treasure Island* at Weymouth, Dorset. At the suggestion of a member of the amateur cast, the show was held up for half an hour while everyone, including the audience, went home for a torch.

THE BIGGEST MEDICAL COMPLAINT FOR PEOPLE OVER 50 IS

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Penny Lane memorabilia for sale

A HAIRDRESSER'S shop in Penny Lane, Liverpool, the street featured in the 1966 Beatles song, is expected to fetch £200,000 at a sale of Beatles memorabilia in Japan. The hand-written lyrics for the Lennon and McCartney song are also estimated to fetch between £30,000 and £50,000.

The birthplace of the group's drummer, Ringo Starr, at 9 Madryn Street, is expected to fetch from £5,000 to £10,000. The sale at Tokyo Auction House on March 22 will be relayed by satellite to Bonhams in London and to cable and satellite subscribers of the new Auction Channel.

Other items include the custom-made left-handed bass guitar, estimated at up to £150,000, that Sir Paul played during most of his Beatles' career. His original birth certificate, which he recently cited as an example of the "ridiculous" market in Beatles items, is expected to go for about £9,000.

Heseltine incurs Whitehall wrath over league table

By Valerie Elliott, Whitehall Editor

MICHAEL HESELTINE is seeking talks with other Cabinet ministers to resolve a Whitehall dispute over his plans to publish a league table of the most poorly performing government agencies.

While officials had been happy to go along with league tables for schools and hospitals, they have denounced the Deputy Prime Minister's plan as "unfair and outrageous". The branches of government hived off under their own management, known as Next Steps agencies, set their own targets and measure their own performance. Mr Heseltine wants a table showing their performance to be included in next month's annual review of agencies.

Senior officials have tried to win over their departmental ministers against the Cabinet Office plan; one said yesterday that it amounted to "undue interference from the centre" and that the Cabinet Office did not fully understand the agencies' business. "How can you measure the performance of the Coastguard Agency, for example, with the paying of benefits? They are not comparable."

Mr Heseltine has decided to deal with ministers directly and is expected to meet Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, Peter Lilley, the Social Security Minister, and Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary. He is determined that the Cabinet Office should enforce standards and that agencies should be honest, open and accountable. His plans are also seen as an attempt to motivate agencies to improve their performance.

The agencies that have failed to meet their own performance targets include the Patent Office and Companies House, under the Department of Trade and Industry, both of which hold Chartermark awards for service to the public. Under the Home Office, the Prison Service is still not meeting all its targets, although officials believe it is markedly improving.

Mr Lilley is expected to be questioned about the continuing failure of the Child Support Agency to meet its targets, despite the improvements made by Ann Chant, its chief executive.

In some cases there may be genuine reasons for an agency not meeting its targets. Mr Heseltine's view is that the public should know why.

Sir Peter Kemp, the former senior civil servant who devised the Next Steps concept, said last night: "I am rather on Heseltine's side on this one. But if a league table is envisaged it should include the top as well as the bottom."

Spring blooms banish winter blues

By Alan Toogood
Horticulture Correspondent

THE colour and spring-like vigour of the Royal Horticultural Society's first flower show of the year banishes memories of the recent big freeze.

The highlight, and a gold medal winner, is the display of bold drifts of hellebores and miniature hardy cyclamen among yellow and red-flowered wych-hazels and *Cornus mas*, by Ashwood Nurseries of Kingswinford, West Midlands.

Among the hellebores are double-flowered forms of Ashwood Garden Hybrids in shades of pink, purple and white, shown for the first time, and a garden hybrid not yet named with peach-coloured flowers. Rarities include *Helleborus vesicarius* from Turkey with bell-shaped chocolate and green flowers, and the superb pale pink *H. thibetanus*, a first showing for this Chinese species.

Cyclamen coum are being shown by several exhibitors, including the Cyclamen Society of Ewell, Surrey, offering Pewter Leaf, which is different from most forms as it has plain grey-green leaves rather than patterned foliage.

Southcombe Gardens, of Kenton, Devon, show what can be achieved in winter. Among beech trees still holding on to their golden-brown leaves, dark green hollies and willows with coloured bark are clumps of grassy evergreen perennials such as black-leaved *Ophiopogon planiscapus* Nigrescens, gold *Luzula sylvatica* Hohe Tatra, and variegated *Carex hachijoensis* Evergold and *Acorus gramineus* Ogon. On the theme of winter colour, a collection of almost 20 kinds of shrubby cornus has been staged by the society's Floral B committee.

The highlight among exhibits of tropical plants is a collection of lycaste orchids from Henry Oakeley, of Beckenham, southeast London. He is showing his own *Lycaste* Mary, a complex hybrid that comes in various colours including bronze, pale yellow and dusky pink.

The show, at the New Horticultural Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster, is open today from 10am to 5pm.

مكتبة الأهرام

Bragg condemns anti-hunt stand as hypocritical

By Michael Hornsby, Countryside Correspondent

THE novelist and television presenter Melvyn Bragg has dismissed Labour's pledge to ban hunting as "sloppy thinking" by people with no understanding of the countryside.

Mr Bragg, a prominent Labour supporter, says there is no evidence that foxes suffer pain in the same way as people do and condemns opposition to country sports as "profoundly hypocritical".

His comments, made during an interview with *The Field* country sports magazine, provoked anger from the Labour Party. He was accused of being "intellectually disreputable" by John McFall, the MP whose Private Member's Bill against hunting was approved by 253 votes to 0 in the Commons in 1995 before being blocked.

Bragg: says hunted foxes do not suffer

But Mr Bragg, who does not hunt, shoot or fish himself, said: "If any one can prove me wrong, I am willing to listen. But to argue that animals feel like us and should be treated in the same way as us is just sloppy thinking."

In his interview Mr Bragg suggests that foxes feel excited rather than afraid when being hunted and that to suppose otherwise is merely sentimental. "There is no evidence that animals have consciousness or memory," he says. "There is evidence that they have pain, but none that they have suffering, so a fox on the run is not suffering or in pain, it is in excitement.

"I do not even think animals have pain as we have pain. I think the whole opposition to country sports is profoundly hypocritical, in the sense that if you believe that what we are giving is pain, then you must apply it to fish, fowl or red herring, to every animal that moves."

Mr Bragg adds: "If I had one real proof that an animal is a sentient being, then I would go along with [the anti-hunting argument], but there is not one."

Mr McFall said: "If he is saying that animals do not suffer, that is intellectually disreputable. If a hunted fox is in a state of excitement, then it is the excitement of an old lady being chased down the street by a gang of thugs."

John Bryant, of the League Against Cruel Sports, said: "It is demonstrably crass and stupid to say animals do not suffer. Any vet or pet owner knows animals feel pain and terror. The fox would not run away if it was not afraid."

John Webster, head of the veterinary school at Bristol University, said he was in no doubt that a fox could feel fear, albeit of a different kind from that experienced by people.

"The evidence is overwhelming that animals can feel pain and suffering", he said. "That does not necessarily mean that hunting should be banned, because a lot of things in life are cruel, but it is a factor in the equation."

Labour has promised that if it wins the general election it will allow MPs a free vote on whether hunting with hounds should be banned. Legislation would follow a yes vote.

Mr Bragg told *The Field* that he respected the passion and commitment of the anti-hunting lobby. "It is a wonderful cause, and I do not want to run down the people who support it, who are often people whom one admires, whom one has time for, but I think they are mistaken."

Mr Bragg, who was brought up in Cumbria where sheep farmers depend on fell packs to keep foxes down, goes on: "They are not country people. They do not understand about culling. They do not understand the damage a fox can do to a hen coop."

In a logical world, he suggests, people would be campaigning to protect rats rather than foxes. The decision that foxes were cute while rats were vermin reflected an anthropomorphic view of wildlife.

"As we all know from Darwin, physiologically, the three most complicated species on earth are rats, bats and antelopes. Rats are far more complicated and interesting than foxes."

Parties collude to thwart Gorman

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

THE Tory Euro-sceptic Teresa Gorman scored a hollow victory yesterday when MPs allowed through her EU referendum Bill without a vote.

Labour and Tory business managers happily colluded in a move that prevented Euro-sceptics in both parties showing their colours to support Mrs Gorman, MP for Billericay. After she had introduced her Bill her opponents failed to provide tellers — MPs who count the votes — for a division, allowing it to go through. The UK Membership of the European Union (Referendum) Bill gained a formal first reading but will proceed no further.

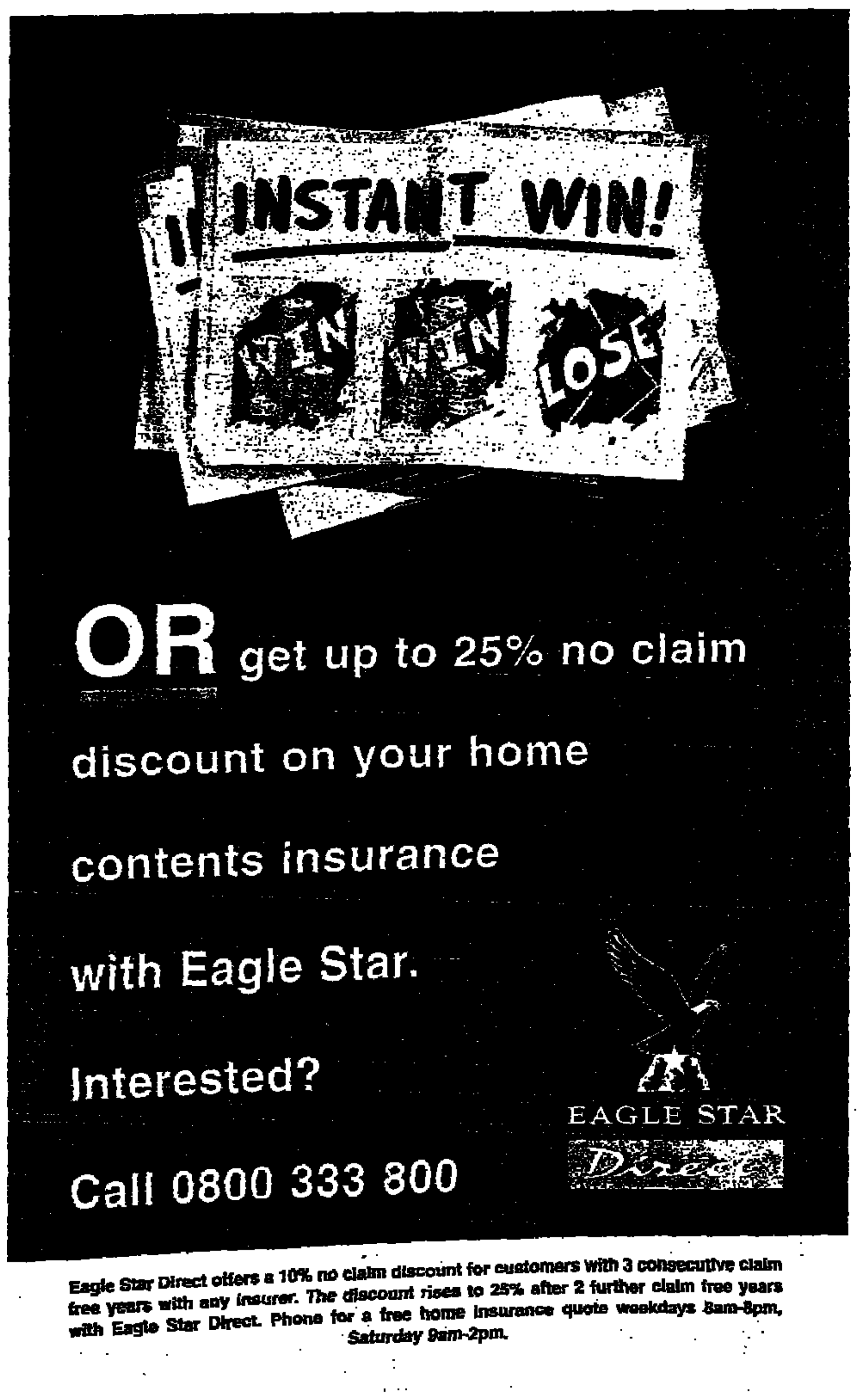
It was widely expected that she would not have secured as much support as similar earlier backbench moves by the MPs William Cash and Iain Duncan Smith. But that did not prevent the irrepressible Mrs Gorman claiming a triumph last night.

"They were running scared," she said. "I had 58 pledges of support. Their tactics in not appointing tellers showed they had no guts. It was gutlessness. If they had any guts they would have tried to face us down."

Earlier she claimed that government whips had put pressure on her to drop the Bill. But she said that she would not be able to face her Essex constituents in the street if she did so, claiming that her efforts were inspired by them.

Gorman: accused whips of running scared

However, Sir Edward Heath, who as Prime Minister took Britain into the Common Market, said afterwards: "This was entirely pointless. One thing that has come out of it is that Mrs Gorman and her friends want to come out of Europe altogether, and the country won't stand for that."



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Highland fame: Donnie Munro and members of his successful band Runrig

Rock star to sing Labour's praises on political stage

By Gillian Bowditch
Scotland Correspondent

A GAELIC rock singer chosen yesterday to contest a Highland seat for Labour says that he does not expect his celebrity status to make him a hit with the voters.

Donnie Munro, 43-year-old lead singer with Runrig, was confirmed as candidate for Ross, Skye and Inverness West with unanimous backing of local party members. At the general election he will fight the sitting Liberal Democrat MP, Charles Kennedy, who is defending a notional majority of 6,505 in the redrawn constituency.

Runrig have a huge following in Scotland, where record sales have been high enough to propel the band into the British charts. At hogmanay they played to a crowd of 400,000 in Edinburgh. Mr Munro, a former rector of Edinburgh University, was born and brought up in Skye and has used the band's popularity to campaign for the abolition of tolls on the Skye Bridge.

However, launching his political career in Dingwall yesterday, he said: "I am not standing here as a celebrity because I am not keen on that type of thing. It would be dishonest of me to say that this won't be useful, but it could also be argued that it could have a detrimental effect because some people will say that I am just a face."

He is not the only famous name who will be seeking political success in Scotland this spring. The Scottish National Party is fielding the Gaelic singer and television entertainer Anne Lorne Gilles in the Western Isles. The Tories have chosen the Earl of Elgin's son, Adam Bruce, a direct descendant of Robert the Bruce, for North East Fife, and David Campbell-Bannerman, a great-nephew of the Liberal Prime Minister Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, for Glasgow Rutherglen.

According to Professor Bill Miller of Glasgow University's politics department, having a well-known name is unlikely to enhance their prospects. "Donnie Munro may hope to pick up a few hundred votes because of his fame but I doubt it would be as many as a thousand. British voters vote along party lines. They look beyond the personality. Even the policies of individual candidates do not have much effect on the voting habits at a general election. Having said that if a person is popular it is unlikely to them any harm."

Poll puts Hamilton hearing in doubt

By Arthur Leathley
Political Correspondent

THE former Trade Minister Neil Hamilton is likely to escape a public interrogation over the cash-for-questions affair because senior Tory MPs want to avoid a damaging confrontation before the general election.

MPs on the Commons disciplinary committee are preparing to abandon plans to hold a series of hearings into accusations against Mr Hamilton. A detailed report into claims that he accepted gifts is being prepared for MPs by Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards. However, delays in drafting the report have created a dilemma for MPs on the Standards and Privileges Committee, who say they are running out of time to hold further hearings on the affair.

Sir Gordon's report, originally expected early this month, is unlikely to reach the committee until the end of next month. The MPs will then have to decide whether to accept it in full or carry out further investigations. Sir Gordon is now taking written and oral evidence over claims that Mr Hamilton accepted gifts, and that the lobbyist Ian Greer paid other MPs to ask questions in the Commons.

Because the Commons will be dissolved almost a month before the election date, MPs on the committee concede that there is little chance of holding a series of public hearings, even if the election is on May 1.

"We must hope that Sir Gordon's report is so detailed and well-prepared that there will be no need for us to carry out any more inquiries," one committee member said. "If we have to call Hamilton, it will only lead to other witnesses having to be called and there simply won't be time."

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: backbench debates followed this afternoon by trade and industry questions; Finance Bill, committee; backbench debate on family mediation in Scotland. In the Lords: debates on the economic value of the City of London's international work; industrial action; government relations with Cuba.

Tories seem to be still fighting the last election

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Michael Heseltine sometimes behaves as if Tony Benn were still Industry Secretary, as he was when Labour last formed a government 23 years ago. Mr Heseltine's outburst over yesterday's Institute for Public Policy Research report, *Promoting Prosperity: A Business Agenda for Britain*, was reminiscent of his antics in those long lost days when he once picked up the Commons mace. But it was rather an Archie Rice performance. The world, and the Labour Party, has moved on since Mr Benn sought to implement the party's February 1974 pledge to set up a National Enterprise Board, establish planning agreements with private companies and take over "profitable sections or individual firms" in some industries, particularly "irresponsible multinational companies". And that was after Harold Wilson had earlier succeeded in defeating a left-wing call for the state takeover of the 25 leading companies.

Tony Blair's speech at yesterday's IPPR conference on the report showed how far Labour has moved to be friendly to business. Gone is any hint of 1970s-style interventionism. Instead, the emphasis is on how government can help industry, encourage investment and improve infrastructure and skills.

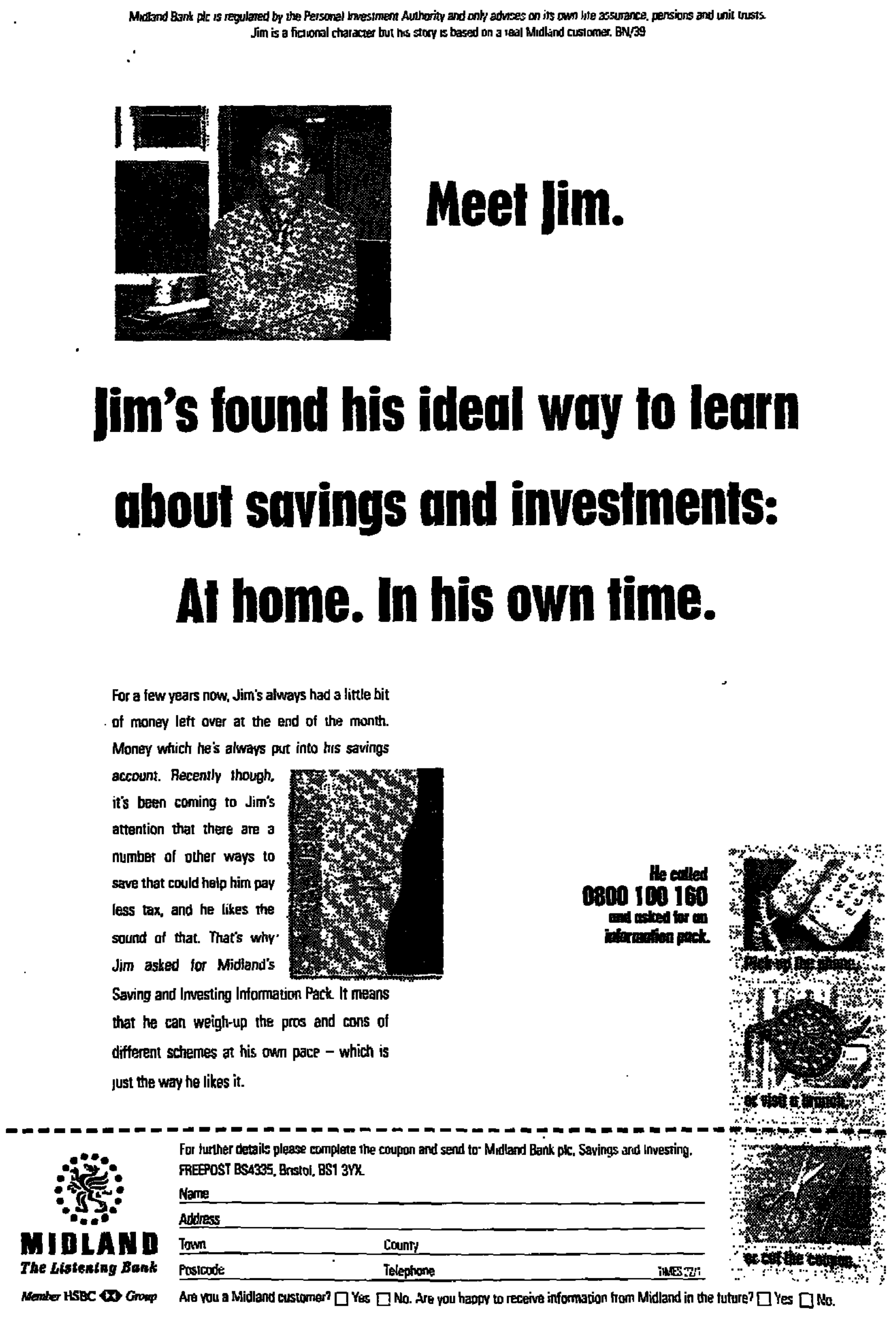
Yesterday's IPPR report reflects that shift in thinking, a sober, rather mainstream discussion of how to improve Britain's industrial performance. Of course, the IPPR is a centre-left body with close Labour links, but for Mr Heseltine to attack the commission which produced the report on the same grounds risks alienating rather than winning over uncommitted businessmen. It is ridiculous to imply that several members of the commission, such as Sir Chistopher Harding of Legal and General and George Simpson of GEC, are Labour stooges. They have been far closer to the Tories.

Of course, many in industry will disagree with the report's support for the minimum wage and, reluctantly, signing the social chapter. Adair Turner of the CBI yesterday expressed reservations on these points while welcoming the report as "a major contribution to our national policy discussion". Many industrialists are also worried that a Blair government would add to industry's costs by regulations and statutory requirements of various kinds. These are legitimate points for the Tories to make, but they are different in kind and degree from the far more fundamental arguments of 20 years ago.

The Government has a strong record on promoting enterprise and inward investment. But Mr Heseltine's over-the-top response was not only politically misjudged but underlines how hard the Tories are finding it to grapple with the adroit repositioning of Labour by Mr Blair and Gordon Brown. The Tories seem to be refighting the last election. Their claims about £30 billion in Labour spending commitments are wild exaggerations. There are certainly several spending loose ends in Labour policies which would undoubtedly complicate Mr Brown's life as Chancellor but they are on nothing like that scale. The more sensible Tory approach is that adopted by Kenneth Clarke on Monday, and John Major yesterday, in questioning whether Labour would be able to hold down spending in face of all the pressures to expand budgets.

Recent Tory attacks have missed the target by lacking credibility. The public may be worried about whether a Labour government would be able to avoid tax increases but it does not believe that Mr Blair and Mr Brown are going to launch a public-spending spree or be hostile to business. Similarly, most businessmen, including some members of the IPPR commission, will probably not change the habits of a lifetime and vote Labour. But they no longer fear a Labour government as threatening their futures and livelihoods as they did in 1974. That in itself is a major achievement for Mr Blair, which Mr Heseltine and Tory propagandists have not yet countered.

PETER RIDDELL



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Clinton must balance quest for racial harmony with liberalism

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX
IN WASHINGTON

ANALYSIS

PRESIDENT CLINTON made the plea for social harmony the central theme of his inaugural speech on Monday, when he dubbed racial hatred "America's constant curse". Yet his speech, which coincided with the public holiday commemorating Martin Luther King, lacked the credibility of Dr King's dream of a colour-blind society.

The flaw was not in the choice of words or delivery. Mr Clinton has the gift of being able to invoke big themes without sentimentality or self-consciousness. In the 34 years since Dr King declared "I have a dream", the United States has made huge efforts to weld together its diverse population. Yet that project has lost the optimism that accompanied it three decades ago. Worse, the increasing attempts to force warring citizens to live with each other through legislation or social pressure are felt by many to threaten the liberal principles also at the heart of American ideology.

The inauguration took place against a backdrop of headline-grabbing events that have been seen across the country as particularly resonant of racial conflict. Yesterday, the civil trial on whether O.J. Simpson wrongfully killed his wife finished hearing evidence. Last week, the son of Bill Cosby, the television comedian who is a national hero, was shot dead, allegedly by a white man.

Californian schools are in uproar over the proposal for teaching "Ebonics", a "black" version of English. Meanwhile, Washington DC is pleading with the federal Government to take over management of the nation's capital, which is plunging into gang-ridden squalor.

Since Mr Clinton ran for the governorship of Arkansas a decade ago, he has put the racism battle at the heart of his political priorities. In that, he represents to many the New South: economically and politically stronger and, its champions say, more racially tolerant. As Nicholas Lemann argued in *The Washington Post* this week: "Who else could win over whites while telling them that racial discrimination has not ended? Or win over blacks while telling them that all the problems of black America aren't white people's fault?"

Mr Clinton's inaugural speech did not exaggerate the ambition of the enterprise. No other nation is attempting a comparable social experiment, let alone putting its success at the heart of the national identity. Yet America's attempt to glue together its diverse elements is conflicting with many of the individual freedoms also central to its national identity. The strain surfaced in the presidential election with California's successfully passed proposition to outlaw affirmative action, the practice of giving minorities special treatment in jobs and public programmes.

More widely, political correctness is a much satirised vogue, but has clearly damaging effects. In trying to give each citizen the right not to be offended, it undermines American liberalism. Richard Bernstein, a *New York Times* journalist, assembled a powerful indictment of the "PC" culture and the teaching of "multiculturalism" in schools in his 1995 book *Dictatorship of virtue*. As he and others have observed, multiculturalism favours people on the basis of their race and sex, and so betrays Dr King's dream of "a day when my children will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character".

Mr Clinton was right to argue on Monday that America cannot afford to fail in its bid for social harmony. However, it is clear that there is a price for success — the loss of considerable freedom of expression — which many citizens are not willing to pay. Describing a way to reconcile those two principles may have been beyond the scope of Monday's speech, but it is perhaps the most important task that now confronts him.

Gore stakes his claim to inherit presidency

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

DOUG MILLS/AP

President Clinton dances with his wife, Hillary, at one of 15 dances held to mark the start of his second term

WHEN Al Gore skipped on to the stage of the Washington Ball in the early hours of yesterday morning, America's Vice-President was unable to contain his excitement as thousands of Democrats chanted "Gore in 2000".

The ball, one of 14 "dances" with which the $44 million (£26.5 million) inauguration of President Clinton concluded as the sun rose yesterday, was little more than a political rock concert. It was, however, one of the few occasions during this pageant when Mr Gore was not basking in the reflected glory of the President. Generally robotic, he became unusually animated as he punched the air in a victory salute and danced with his wife, Tipper, and Marion Barry, the Mayor of Washington.

An audience, which became visibly less enthusiastic at the entrance of Mr Clinton only half an hour later, was in rapture as the Gores rocked to the sounds of Meat Loaf. The ageing and slab-like American rock star who had just performed *But Out of Hell*, rushed to greet the Vice-President. When Bill and Hillary Clinton emerged to clasp the microphone, Meat Loaf retired gracefully and did not even clap as the President began his regular patter.

Enthusiasm for Mr Gore had been matched at every event, from the parade of military and high school bands and floats to the swearing-in at the Capitol.

There, on the steps of Congress, the Vice-President had in fact briefly tasted the ultimate power. The President's own swearing-in was running late and, for five minutes and forty seconds, Mr Gore assumed the mantle of leader of the Western world.

In Washington, of course, the moment was seen as a sign that he would succeed Mr Clinton in the Oval Office in four years' time. Almost no other President in American history has given such a ringing and early endorsement to a chosen successor. While Mr Gore was left with a worthy but low-profile portfolio for much of the first Clinton Administration, the President has swiftly carved out a significant role for his deputy in the coming months.

Early next month he will play host to Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian Prime Minister, and will visit South Africa later in the month as part of a bilateral commission. When he returns, Mr Gore will address the annual convention in Los Angeles of America's largest union, and a constituency vital for his Democratic nomination in 2000.

The two men, whom the White House claims have developed a fraternal relationship, appear to be practically joined at the hip. The fortunes of Mr Clinton are seen as a barometer for Mr Gore's own ambitions, and with Mr Clinton enjoying his highest poll popularity, the "feelgood" factor has clearly rubbed off on his deputy.

Mr Gore has remained largely untarnished by the myriad scandals that surround the President. There is still a genuine fear that the next four years could be dominated, not by policy, but by investigations into Whitewater, campaign fund-raising and the sexual harassment lawsuit filed against the President by Paula Jones, a former Arkansas employee.

"If that happens," said a White House aide, "I wouldn't be surprised if Gore starts being less loyal than he has been up to now."

Truth stretched as history is made in the USA

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

INAUGURAL addresses are not designed to be pored over by pedants, but in his brisk review of technological achievements in the United States President Clinton's certainly stretched the rules close to breaking point.

He claimed that Americans "split the atom and explored the heavens; invented the computer and the microchip". Half of these claims are certainly true. Americans — or at least citizens of the United States — did explore the heavens, and the first microchips were produced in California by Intel.

But the atom was first split in Cambridge in 1919 by Ernest Rutherford, a New Zealander by birth. He bombarded nitrogen with alpha particles, producing hydrogen and oxygen.

Perhaps Mr Clinton meant nuclear fission rather than transmutation? In that case, the credit properly goes to two Germans, Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassman, and Austrian Lise Meitner, who discovered in 1938 and 1939 that uranium nuclei can be split by neutron bombardment.

It was Meitner's nephew, the Austrian-born Otto Frisch, who coined the term fission and worked out the mass of uranium needed for a bomb — while he was working at Birmingham University.

True, the first controlled splitting of the atom was in the United States, but the man in charge was an Italian, Enrico Fermi. The bomb itself owed plenty to émigré Europeans working in the United States, although it is often wrongly treated as a purely American achievement.

The computer has an equally tangled history. An Englishman, Charles Babbage, had the idea first in the 19th century, though his machines were mechanical and never completed. During the 1930s Alan Turing, also English, established the theoretical possibility of a "universal computing machine".

The first computers were built in Germany, the United States and Britain. While the American device, ENIAC, was bigger and more powerful than the others, it could not store its own programs. The first computer able to do that was built in Manchester.

President Clinton is not the first to bend technological history to his own advantage. The Soviet Union under Stalin hardly ever acknowledged any inventors but its own, and Baroness Thatcher, when she was Prime Minister, was convinced that genetic engineering had been invented in Britain.

Nobody had the nerve to tell her that she was confusing recombinant DNA technology with another important technique which was indeed invented in Cambridge — by an Argentinian and a German.

Gingrich humbled by ruling on misuse of charity funds

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE House of Representatives last night took the unprecedented step of reprimanding Newt Gingrich, the Speaker, and demanded that he pay a $300,000 (£180,000) penalty for admitted ethics violations.

The vote makes Mr Gingrich the first House leader in American history to have been disciplined by his peers and leaves him severely weakened as a political power on Capitol Hill. Only two weeks ago he became the first Republican re-elected to the Speaker's chair in 68 years.

"No one is above the rules," said Nancy Johnson, the Republican chairman of the committee which has investigated the Gingrich affair for two years.

The reprimand and penalty came after a highly damning report was issued last week by James Cole, the independent counsel. Mr Cole was investigating whether the Speaker had misused charitable donations for political purposes.

According to the report, Mr Gingrich was said to have shown a "disregard and lack of respect" for the standards of conduct expected of his office. A deal was swiftly struck with lawyers from both sides and the Speaker, hoping to minimise political damage to himself, had already agreed to pay the sum and accept the reprimand in advance of last night's vote.

Controversy has been maintained, however, over how Mr Gingrich plans to pay the fine. His lawyer has said that Mr Gingrich will not make a decision on payment for at least a week, sparking immediate criticism from House Democrats who are demanding that the Speaker reimburse the committee from his own pocket.

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Lalo's view in Mexico's *La Jornada*

Woman arrested over Cosby 'daughter' blackmail sting

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A YOUNG woman has been arrested in New York on suspicion of blackmailing Bill Cosby, the entertainer whose son, Ennis, was killed last week.

Autumn Jackson, 22, allegedly contacted Mr Cosby's lawyers and claimed to be his illegitimate daughter. She is accused of seeking $40 million (£24 million) to keep quiet.

Miss Jackson, accompanied by José Medina, 51, was arrested by the FBI when she arrived at the Manhattan offices of lawyers representing Mr Cosby, 54. It is alleged that she was lured there by a bogus offer of $24 million.

The offer was part of a police "sting" which predated the death of Ennis Cosby. Miss Jackson has reportedly known Mr Cosby for several years and received financial assistance from him towards her educational costs. In court papers Mr Cosby stated that he helped "numerous young people in need of tuition assistance". He denies the woman is his daughter.

Late last year Miss Jackson allegedly contacted Mr Cosby and was paid $3,000 after she complained that she was "out of money". She allegedly later claimed to have contacted a tabloid newspaper with a view to selling a story about her relationship with the popular television actor. On the day that his son was killed, a fax about the tabloid newspaper development was sent to Mr Cosby by Miss Jackson.

Tony Frost, a Briton who edits the normally merciless *Globe* tabloid, confirmed that he had received an approach from Miss Jackson and Mr Medina on the day before Mr Cosby's son died. Events had since changed matters considerably, and the newspaper is helping federal investigators with their inquiries. After his son was killed, Mr Cosby pleaded with newspapers to drop the story and pour their efforts into finding the killer.

☐ **Los Angeles:** Police investigating the murder of Ennis Cosby have questioned two "potential witnesses" seen in a supermarket car park south of Los Angeles (Giles Whittell writes). One appears to match a sketch released last week of a man seen leaving the murder scene.

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9

Joint drive to lure Holy Land tourists after Hebron deal

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority are working together for the first time to capitalise on last week's *Hebron* agreement to boost tourism to the Holy Land.

Nitsan Ilan, an Israeli official, said that tomorrow leading US newspapers would carry a new advertisment urging Americans to visit the Holy Land under *the slogan:* "Peace — It's a Beautiful Sight." She claimed it was the first such joint initiative.

After Israel made peace with the Palestine Liberation Organisation in 1993 and with Jordan a year later, it was expected that increased tourism would be a "peace dividend" for all parties. But hopes were dashed by suicide bombs last spring, which claimed more than 60 lives in Israel, and subsequent fighting between Israeli troops and Palestinian police in which 75 people died.

The joint policy document, signed by the three ministries of tourism, follows last week's pullout of Israeli troops from 80 per cent of Hebron, the West Bank city *holy to Jews* and Muslims.

"Today Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians open their arms and their hearts to extend a warm invitation to the American people to visit these lands, which have given *birth to so much faith and so* much history," says the message to American tourists, whose visits fell 6 per cent last year compared to 1995.

In addition, the Israeli Tourism Ministry requested its offices overseas "to initiate image-building activities as a continuation of the positive media wave which evolved towards Israel with the signing of the redeployment agreement".

> ❛ Many people planning a visit are waiting to see how things develop on the ground ❜

Tourism officials believe that the Hebron deal will usher in a period of reduced political tensions, but say it is too early to tell how this will affect bookings. "It appears *that many people who are* planning on coming to Israel are waiting to see how things develop on the ground," one said.

According to the Israel Hotel Association, total tourist arrivals, including cruise ship passengers, dropped 8 per cent to 2.3 million in 1996 compared to the previous year. Arrivals from Britain fell by 5 per cent to 216,000 after a first-quarter increase of 5 per cent. "Tourists are looking for peace, quiet and stability," said Avi Rosenthal, director of the association. "We feel the Hebron agreement will . . . be a boost for tourism."

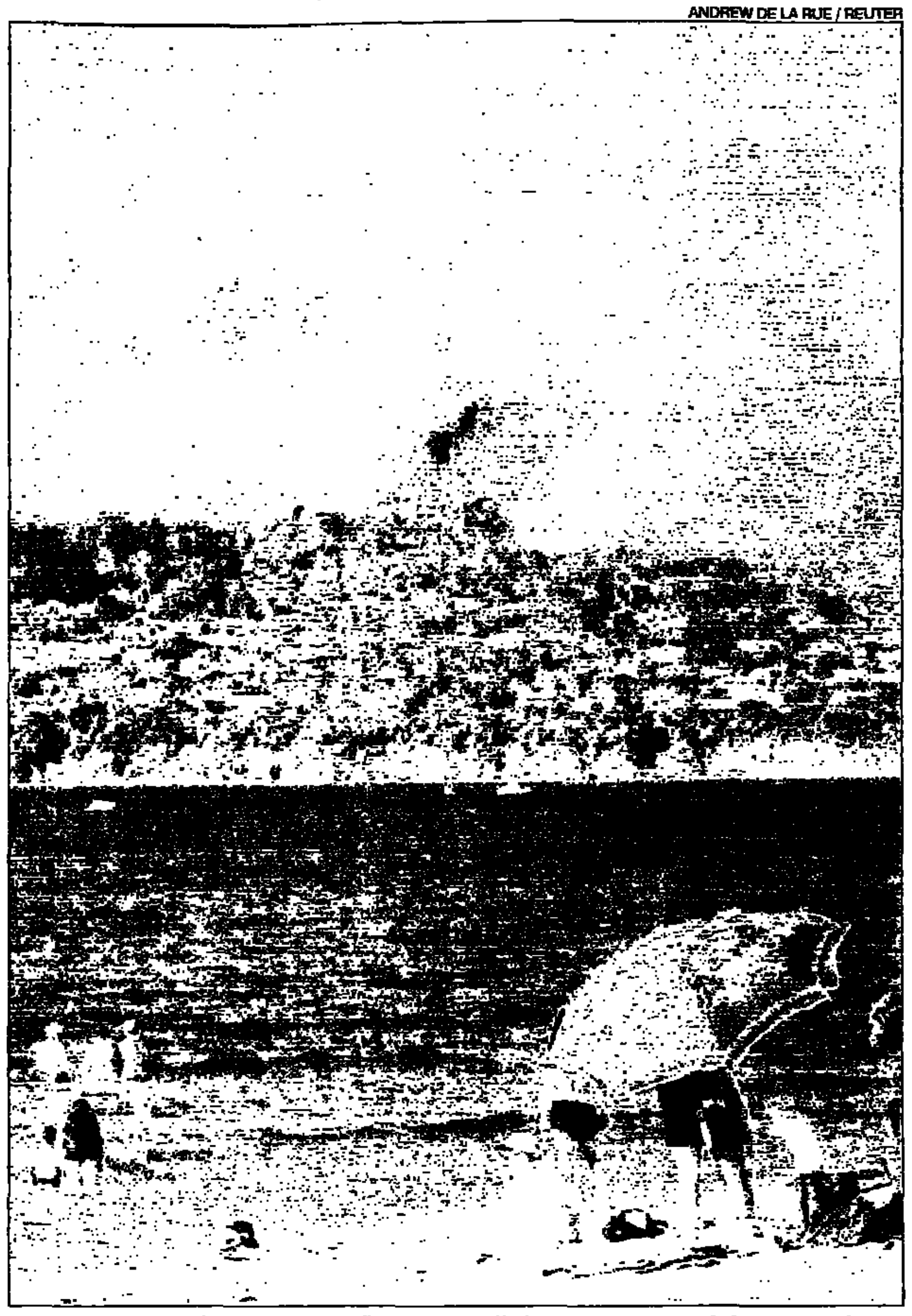
Hotel industry officials hope to foster regional tour packages that include Egypt, Jordan, and perhaps eventually Syria and Lebanon if peace deals can be achieved with them as well. Two big tourist events are approaching: the millennium and next year's celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Jewish state.

In a separate development, Ariel Sharon, Israel's National Infrastructure Minister and architect of the 1982 military push into Lebanon, has announced he is masterminding a multibillion-dollar scheme to build a string of islands off Israel's Mediterranean coast for business and tourism.

*Private Israeli and interna*tional finance will be used for the project, in which each of the islands is estimated to cost $1 billion (£602 million). They will be linked to the mainland by bridges.

Letters, page 17

ANDREW DE LA RUE / REUTER



People on a beach watch as bush fires, which killed one person, moved closer yesterday to Melbourne. The fires destroyed up to 30 homes, devastated forest land and led to *the closure of the retractable roof at the Australian Open tournament. Tennis, page 46*

Nike mania of Japanese sneaker-snatchers turns to violence

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S sneaker-snatchers struck again yesterday when a 21-year-old man was attacked by a gang of youths and robbed of his valuable training shoes.

The victim made the mistake of strolling at night in Air Max running shoes, made by Nike, a brand so coveted in Japan that some owners keep them locked away and take them out only to admire them. The shoes, with their distinctive air cushions and transparent plastic bubbles in the heels, owe their popularity to a marketing campaign that tapped into a growing interest in black sports stars and musicians.

Television commercials featuring *Michael Jordan, the American bas*ketball star, were highly effective in whetting appetites. When customers — mostly in their teens or early twenties — had to queue for hours because of limited availability, desire for Air Max turned into a craving.

With demand outstripping supply, some shops can charge 30,000 yen (£150) for models that normally sell for half that. Trend-crazy youths pay as much as 100,000 yen for sought-*after designs. When Nike puts out a* new style, old designs quickly become valuable collectors' items. Young people gripped by the mania can be ruthless in pursuit of second-hand sports shoes, however smelly. The obsession, deplored by the American manufacturer which worries about a backlash, has triggered a minor crime wave.

Since last autumn police have recorded a rash of robberies targeting people wearing the most desir*able types of Air Max. The crimes* are deeply disturbing in a nation that prides itself on a low crime rate and where the incidence of muggings is well below that of other major industrialised countries. Observers attribute the crimes to the compulsion of young people to keep up with their peers, combined with an oft-noted lack of individuality.

Yesterday's attack in Sakai, near the western city of Osaka, may have been the most violent of its kind, *according to police. Five teenagers* armed with steel pipes beat Naoki Takahashi, took off his Air Max shoes and fled with their prize and 2,000 yen in cash.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Greek Cypriots snub peace plan

Nicosia: American efforts to defuse tension in Cyprus were snubbed yesterday when the Greek Cypriots rejected a proposal to ban Greek and Turkish warplanes from flying over the divided island, because to do so they would have to make an agreement with Turkey (Michael Theodoulou writes).

As a result, European diplomats expressed concern that Washington may now decide to defer indefinitely an initiative to help to reunite the island. The setback came amid further sabre-rattling by Turkey, which announced it was sending warships to northern Cyprus on Friday in a show of solidarity with the Turkish Cypriots over Greek Cypri*ot plans to* buy Russian anti-aircraft missiles.

Death for troops who fled

Kisangani, Zaire: A military court sentenced 14 Zairean *soldiers to death for cowardice for fleeing* from a rebel offensive east of the rebel-held town of Goma. The army is undergoing a shake-up after humiliating defeats in the eastern provinces of North and South Kivu. About 20 senior officers have been jailed for a series of violent crimes. *(AFP)*

Shark kills German tourist

Perth: A shark has apparently killed a German tourist who was windsurfing off Geraldton, Western Australia, 260 miles north of here, police said. The man, 41, had last been seen struggling in a heavy swell and 30-knot wind off Point Moore. His wet suit was found shredded by shark teeth nearly three miles from the shore. *(AFP)*

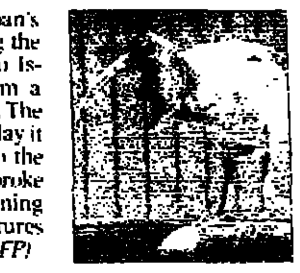
Quakes hit China province

Peking: Two earthquakes struck China's northwest Xinjiang province within a minute, killing at least 12 people (James Pringle writes). Houses collapsed after the quakes, measuring 6.4 and 6.3 on the Richter scale. The epicentre was 40 *miles east of the busy* Old Silk Road city of Kashgar in Jiashi county, where rescuers were still searching amid debris.

Journalists face arrest

Sydney: A British and an Australian journalist who entered Bougainville illegally were threatened with arrest by Sir *Julius Chan, Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister (Roger* Maynard writes). They were said to have attended a meeting between a parliamentary delegation and the Bougainville Revolutionary Army, which demands secession.

Oil spill threatens last ibis



The plight of Kin, right, Japan's last crested ibis, is tormenting the nation as its habitat on Sado Island is the latest victim from a Russian oil spill on January 2. The Government admitted yesterday it had been too slow to react to the *crisis after the Nakhodoku* broke in two. Three volunteers cleaning up the spill in seven prefectures have died of heart attacks. *(AFP)*

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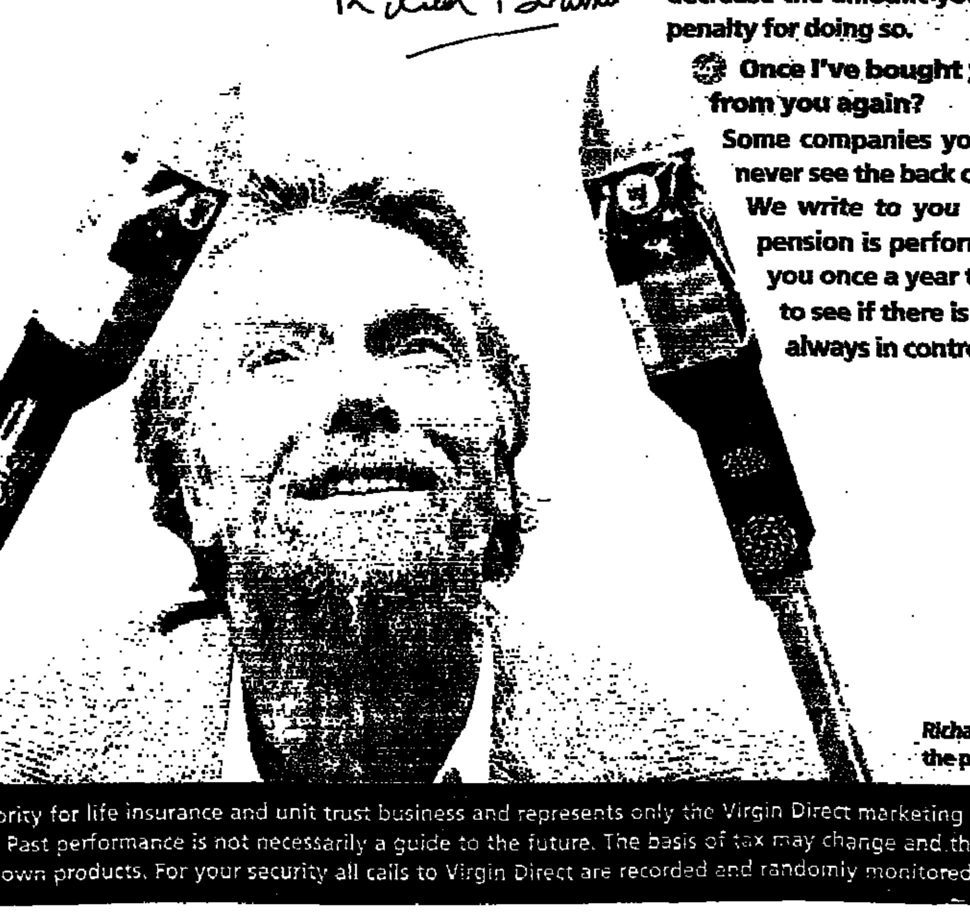

Richard Branson putting a rocket up the pensions industry

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*Source: Savings Market, Summer 1996.

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هكذا من الأصل

Louvre 'failed to seek owners of art looted from Jews'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRANCE'S state auditors have accused national museum officials of failing in their legal duty to seek the rightful owners of almost 2,000 artworks stolen from Jews during the Second World War.

The Cour des Comptes, France's hard-hitting public spending watchdog, alleged that for half a century the state-run Musées de France made little or no effort to publicise paintings and sculptures in its collections that had been seized during the Nazi occupation, according to *Le Figaro*.

The Louvre holds 1,878 artworks originally belonging to Jews and seized by the Nazis, including works by Renoir, Rodin, Courbet, Monet and Gauguin. The smaller Musée d'Orsay has 85 such pillaged works.

The treasure trove was handed provisionally to the Musées de France after the liberation. Under a law passed in December 1949, the museums are required to publicise their guardianship of the works, try to find out who owned them and arrange for them to be reclaimed.

"In the circumstances, it would be impossible not to report that the State, and in particular the management of the Musées de France, will have failed in its obligation to publicise the works," the auditors said in a letter to museum authorities.

"The State can never become owner of these artworks," it concluded, with the implication that France's museum authorities hoped that, if they did little, the question of ownership would lapse and the works would, in effect, become state property.

François Cachin, director of Musées de France, denied the accusations, saying that the two museums did not lay claim to the art and should be considered "simply a place where the works are deposited". M Cachin pointed out that an inventory of the stolen art had been displayed recently on the Internet and that the catalogue would soon be published as a book.

The auditors said, however, that earlier museum administrations should bear the blame for failing to do more to track down the owners of the works. "How could a worrying situation have continued for nearly 50 years without anyone, beginning with the directors of the Musées de France, doing something about it?" the report asked. The auditors pointed out that since 1954 no major effort had been made to publicise the works.

An auditors' report will be published at the end of next month, but the section on art stolen from the Jews, oddly, will be omitted, according to *Le Figaro*.

The allegations that the guardians of France's cultural heritage have been insufficiently energetic in their attempts to return looted paintings comes hard on the heels of claims that properties now owned by the city of Paris may also have been seized from Jews deported to death camps.

A book published last October alleged that Paris City Council still owns 150 buildings in the Marais district, some of which belonged to Jewish families who never reclaimed them after the war. More than 75,000 Jews were deported from France during the war, with the collaboration of the Vichy regime.

David Douvette, the French historian, noted recently that "the looting of Jewish property under Vichy remains, in the France of the 1990s, the ultimate taboo inherited from the black years".

Sweden 'received far more' Nazi gold

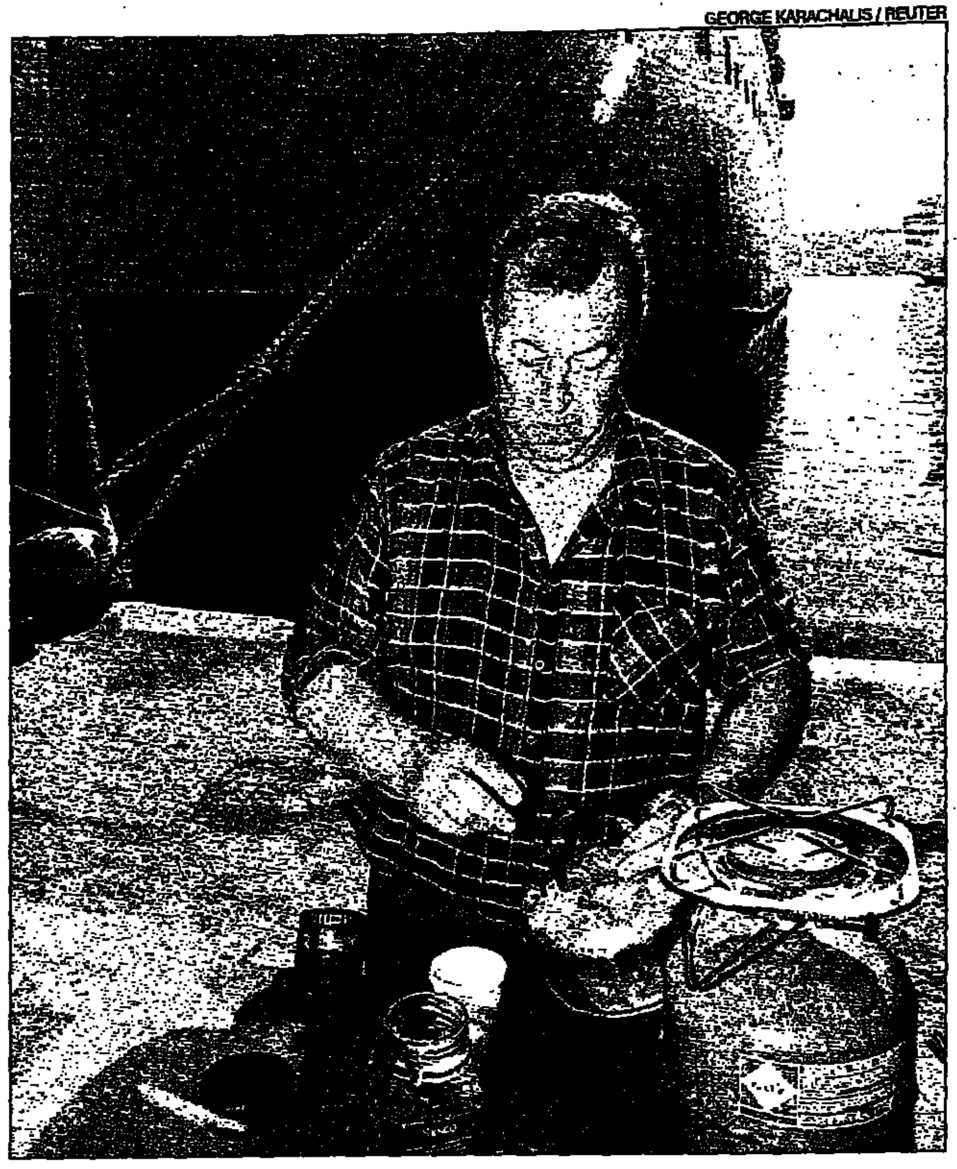
Stockholm: Newly examined documents show that Sweden received about 38 tonnes of gold from Nazi Germany, far more than previously known, and that the Government turned a blind eye to whether it had been looted, Swedish media said yesterday.

After the Second World War, Sweden examined gold payments for exports and returned about 13 tonnes, that presumably had been looted, to Belgium and The Netherlands. Documents on the gold were found in Swedish, Swiss and American archives.

At today's prices of about $353 (£212) an ounce, the gold that Sweden reportedly received from the Nazis would be worth nearly $430 million.

Avraham Burg, head of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, immediately appealed to Sweden to hand over the new information on Nazi gold in Swedish banks.

Mr Burg, whose organisation is working to trace Jewish property stolen by Nazis during the Holocaust, sent a letter to Johan Hajard, the Swedish Ambassador. He wrote: "As we cannot rule out the possibility that the gold that reached the National Bank in Sweden was taken from Jewish victims, I would ask that you relay all of the relevant information and documents to us as soon as possible." *(AP)*



GEORGE KARACHALIS / REUTER

A stranded British lorry driver makes a cup of coffee in the port of Piraeus yesterday as Greek seamen extended a nine-day strike that has halted transport and threatened Greek islands with shortages of medicine,

Lorries trapped by Greek strike

food and fuel. Seamen, farmers and drivers have clashed at several ports. The strike, in support of demands for better pensions, insurance and tax treatment, has been declared illegal by the Socialist Government. Unions will stage a 24-hour national transport, hospital and public services strike tomorrow. ***(Reuter)***

Red princesses wait in wings as last waltz fades

FROM CATHERINE FIELD IN HONG KONG

PRINCESS Caroline of Monaco called in briefly. Jeremy Irons stayed a little longer and the seriously rich Malaysian beauty Michelle Yeuh announced she will be the next Bond girl.

The Hong Kong Cancer Fund annual charity ball's 007 theme was tweaked further with the unveiling of a ballroom decorated as an MI5 operation room, the arrival of Lois Maxwell of Miss Moneypenny fame — and a well-wishing phone call from the latest James Bond, Pierce Brosnan. Also mingling were famous locals such as Cecil Chao, scion of a rich shipping family; Pansy Ho, daughter of the casino mogul Stanley Ho, whose three-day wedding party is still the talk of the social circle; the jewellery designer Kai-Yin Lo and the Burmese-Chinese beauty Loletta Fok, the former Miss Hong Kong.

The evening — rated five stars in Hong Kong's social calendar — marked the unofficial close of the last ball season under British rule and ended in a blaze of thousand-dollar bills and gold Rolls-Royces. "It was absolutely fabulous, it was a riot. I think it was a fitting, sparkly end to the ball season," said Sally Lo, fund chairwoman.

Her tone was a mixture of nostalgia and concern. Hong Kong society's old guard is bracing for the red princesses, the wives, daughters and mistresses of China's ruling elite.

In this glittering and modern city, men work and women are ornaments. The tai tais are wives of businessmen of fantastic wealth, women who think nothing of spending £850 for a Chanel leather mobile phone carry case or laying out £1,300 for hair bows.

Tai tais, a tradition as old as the colony itself, have gone through a series of evolutions — from Victorian matrons to European executives' wives to the spouses of Hong Kong Chinese business chiefs. But many fear that "new money" and "mainland tastes" will overwhelm their world.

Jill Triptree, editor of the Hong Kong *Tatler*, is more sanguine. "There's been a gradual progression of the Hong Kong Chinese tai tais being the ones chairing the charity ball committees. The Europeans have very much taken a back seat," she said, adding that there will soon be more wives from the mainland wanting to be involved.

Show goes on, page 35

Britain protests to China over Hong Kong curbs

BRITAIN is to summon the Chinese Ambassador to the Foreign Office today to protest about Peking's decision to curb Hong Kong's Bill of Rights when it takes over sovereignty on July 1 (Michael Binyon writes).

Jeremy Hanley, the Minister of State with responsibility for Hong Kong, is to hand a formal note of protest to Jiang Enzhu. It is the second time that the ambassador has been summoned there in a month, having received a British protest in December over Peking's establishment of a Provisional Legislative Council. The message is intended to underline the criticism voiced by Chris Patten, the Governor of Hong Kong.

Officials said yesterday that Britain saw no reason to repeal or water down the Bill and there was no justification for the Chinese move. "It sends all the wrong signals to Hong Kong," one official said.

Colonies fight more power for governors

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN'S recent decision to give the governors of its few remaining colonies power to overrule locally elected assemblies has drawn sharp criticism from the Caribbean.

The chief ministers of two dependent territories — Anguilla and Montserrat — have told Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, that the new law is "immoral" because it shows that Britain is not sincere in encouraging its remaining colonies to stand on their own feet.

Last month Mr Rifkind announced that Britain is to give the governors of five dependent territories in the Caribbean new reserve powers to amend or overturn locally enacted legislation. The Government insisted that this was not linked to recent worries about drug-smuggling or money-laundering in some island dependencies, but was to avoid "excessive contingent liabilities".

The Foreign Office said that, since Britain was still answerable to international organisations for its remaining dependencies, it wanted to be able to guarantee good government. Nicholas Bonsor, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told Parliament last month that the changes had been introduced "in the light of recent experience".

This was a clear reference to concern about money-laundering in the Caribbean and the dispute last year between the Governor of the Turks and Caicos Islands and locally elected ministers over accusations that drugs were being freely sold in the islands.

Britain insists that the new powers are to be used only in emergencies. Officials in some islands were angry, however, at the implied presumption that locally elected staff might be corrupt. Hubert Hughes, the Chief Minister of Montserrat, said Britain had clearly decided that, if countries were unable to become independent, they should accept greater control from London.

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No more hanging on the telephone

BRIAN RICHARDS: Product Development Manager Norwich Union Direct

DRIVERS looking for car insurance over the telephone are today being put in the fast lane thanks to an historic link-up which cuts down call times and increases accuracy.

Norwich Union Direct is the first insurer to have a direct link to online vehicle information. This means telephone operators can access driver's vehicle details instantly at the touch of a button.

Research shows that at least one woman in five admits to not knowing the exact model of the car they drive - and one in four can't remember the car's engine size.

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With 9,000 calls per day this means significant savings for Norwich Union Direct, savings which it says will be passed on to customers.

Commenting on the new development, Brian Richards of Norwich Union Direct, said: "In the past customers have had to recall very specific details relating to their cars and often they don't know the answers or sometimes make mistakes.

"Women are more likely to admit the fact that they don't know, but even men who think they know their vehicles often don't know the specifics.

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IF YOU have made a New Year's resolution to save money, Norwich Union Direct could help.

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In independent research, Norwich Union Direct's home insurance quotes were cheaper in all three areas surveyed. The possible savings include a maximum of £148 in London. Quotes are based on a married couple, both aged 36 with no previous claims.

For more information on home insurance, call Norwich Union Direct free on 0800 888 222 NOW - and ensure you have a Happy New Year.

■ Quotes are based on £21,000 home contents cover & £70,000 buildings cover for a 1930's three bedroomed detached house.

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NORWICH UNION DIRECT	£302	£283	[illegible]
Direct Line	£371	[illegible]	[illegible]
Churchill	£374	[illegible]	[illegible]

Carole homes in on a good deal

Carole protected her home for less with Norwich Union Direct

THOUSANDS of people throughout Britain have discovered how quick and easy it is to buy their motor insurance direct over the phone. Now this growing trend is spreading to home insurance, as satisfied customers opt to take a quicker and simpler route to buying house and contents cover.

Much of this new found confidence can be attributed to the fact that many of Britain's well-known direct insurers, such as Norwich Union Direct, offer the backing of a parent company renowned for quality and financial strength within the industry.

A typical example is Carole Gilchrist, who when the time came to renew her buildings and contents insurance recalled the savings she made by buying her motor insurance over the phone. Carole felt that they were paying a lot of money to insure their four bedroom dormer bungalow home in Littleborough, Lancashire. "I decided it was worth shopping around the leading companies, and it seemed the easiest way to do so was to make a few phone calls to get some quotations" she said. "Having the family's cars insured through direct operators, I know how simple the paperless process is, and wanted to see if we could gain the same cost advantages for renewing the cover for our house."

A premium of £247.95 per annum was quoted for buildings and contents cover by leading insurer Norwich Union Direct, which Carole accepted and cover was immediately arranged. "We made a saving with Norwich Union Direct - but that was not the main reason for my choice. The level of cover offered was superior to our existing insurer and the competition. They included more contents and the full accidental damage cover option so it gave me the exact amount of cover I wanted.

To find out if you too could save on household insurance, ring free on 0800 888 222 for a free quotation. If both your house and contents are insured with Norwich Union Direct you will get a further discount on the premium.

IN BRIEF

New Year's Review

☐ Between Christmas presents and the January sales, every household acquires extra items - and many householders will need to consider whether their home contents policy will still cover all their possessions. Norwich Union Direct customers enjoy up to £35,000 worth of cover - and a friendly voice to offer advice on their particular needs. For a free quote on your home insurance, call them free on 0800 888 222.

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☐ A new breakdown cover for major domestic appliances could make extended warranties a thing of the past. Available only from Norwich Union Direct, it is called Ultimate Appliance Breakdown Cover and gives protection against mechanical or electrical breakdown. A monthly premium of £7.95 covers all repair costs, including call-out charges, parts and labour for major appliances up to 8 years old - including cookers, fridges, washing machines, televisions, hi-fi equipment, videos, microwaves and dishwashers.

With Ultimate Appliance Breakdown Cover all customers have to do when an appliance breaks down is to call the helpline and the insurer arranges the repairs, with work guaranteed. Call out, parts and labour are paid in full and if the appliance is less than five years old and can't be repaired it's replaced.

For more information, and to arrange cover, call free on 0800 888 777.

هكذا ورد الأصل

Bonn and Prague heal 50-year rift

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BONN

GERMANY and the Czech Republic yesterday made an important step towards ending 50 years of friction over the postwar expulsion of Sudeten Germans.

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and Vaclav Klaus, the Czech Prime Minister, signed an accord expressing mutual regret. There seems to be now no real hindrance to Germany asserting its role as the champion of Central Europe within an expanded European Union.

The deal, which will ease Prague's progress towards EU membership, remains controversial. As Herr Kohl arrived for his first visit to an independent Czech Republic, demonstrators from the Czech Communist Party and the ultra-nationalist Republicans launched loud protests, declaring the accord to be a sell-out. Vera Zezulkova, the Communist Party spokeswoman, said the accord was no more than a token of German domination over its neighbour. "The text makes a wholly unacceptable equation between Nazi crimes and the postwar consequences."

In Germany, the leader of the association for expelled Germans, Fritz Neubauer, said: "The open questions have all still to be resolved and this will lead to new conflicts." Above all, the accord did not guarantee the 2.5 million Sudeten Germans the basic right to a homeland nor give hope for restitution of property confiscated after the war. The parliaments of both countries have to ratify the accord.

Despite the dissenting voices, Czechs and Germans were broadly satisfied yesterday. As Central and East European states are due to begin entry negotiations with the EU, a deal was regarded as imperative.

It was Vaclav Havel, the Czech President, who, within days of becoming leader of the former Czechoslovakia in 1990, first expressed public regret for the expulsion of the Sudeten Germans. He also recognised the importance of Germany in shaping Central Europe.

"Germany has been our inspiration as well as our pain, a source of understandable traumas ... as well as of standards to which we turn," he said. "Some regard Germany as our greatest hope, others as our greatest peril."

This careful balance, between the horrors inflicted by Germany on the region and the advantages offered by German commerce, has been steadily shifting in Bonn's favour.

The German roots are deep: high German was the teaching language, along with Latin, at Prague's Charles University when it opened in 1348. German trade in the 1930s helped to modernise Central Europe.

A similar trend is underway as German influence edges out Russia. Officially recorded trade between Poland and Germany is now more than £12 billion. Germany is the biggest single customer for Czech, Hungarian and Polish products. Although Russia has not been abandoned, the orientation of the Central European economy has shifted in six years from East to West — with Germany as the magnet.

Everywhere, the signs of this geopolitical shift are visible: in the neon lights advertising German washing-machines, cars and beer, and in the jobs created by German direct investment. In the Czech Republic and Slovakia there are more than 300 German companies employing about 50,000 workers. In part, the German interest reflects the high labour costs at home.

In the 1930s, German commerce raised the standard of Central European manufacturing. A similar process can be observed today. The result is a kind of pragmatic compact: Germans modernised the East in return for a foothold in a huge rediscovered market. That makes it easier to patch up old quarrels.

Leading article, page 17

Paris signals end for code that saves lives at sea

"ADIEU MORSE." At midnight on January 31 the maritime listening post on Brittany's coast will stop receiving Morse code messages as France abandons the signal system that has saved countless lives at sea (Ben Macintyre writes).

France Télécom, the French telecommunications company, has decreed that the code is dead — two years before the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) formally places Samuel Morse's invention on technology's scrap heap.

The language of dots and dashes — "dits" and "dahs" in English parlance, "tis" and "tas" in French — representing letters of the alphabet and still broadcast over the emergency wavelength of 500kHz has been overtaken by verbal radio contact between land and sea which, in turn, is giving way to still more sophisticated satellite communication systems.

Last year the Brest-Le Conquet maritime radio station on the Finistère coast received a mere 152 Morse messages, compared with 200,000 minutes of radio communications. Rather than the emergency message S.O.S. (dot dot dot/dash dash dash/dot dot dot) for Save Our Souls, or the earlier C.Q.D. (dash dot dash dot/dash dash dot dash/dash dot dot) for Come Quick Danger, ships in distress tend to send out a mayday call on 2182 kHz, the emergency frequency, or use a satellite telephone.

Code defenders say it still has its uses — for ships where radio operators have strong accents or radios are malfunctioning.

Morse ceased to be required on seagoing ships from 1993, when the IMO introduced the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System. By 1999 it will have been phased out worldwide.

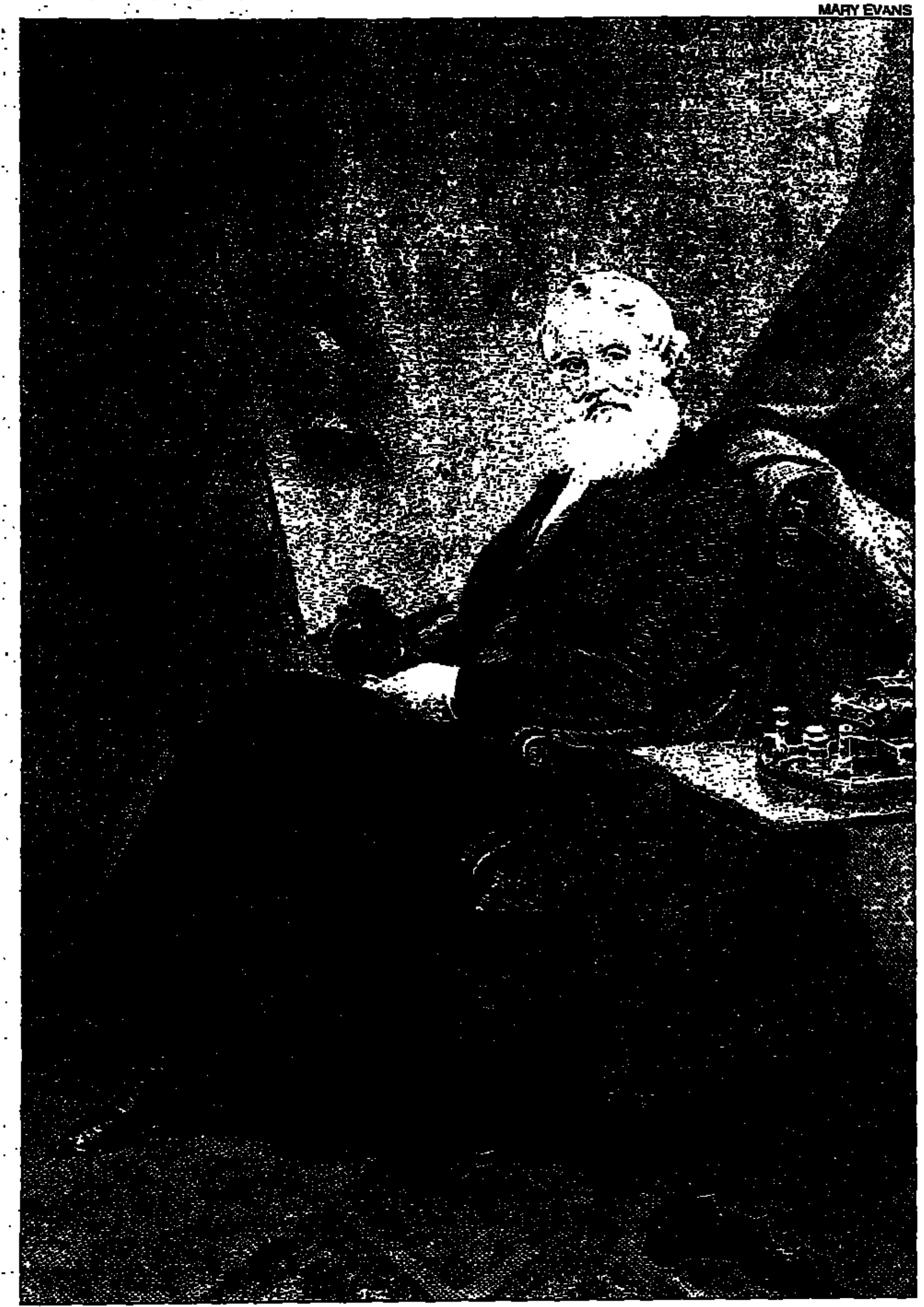
Samuel Finley Breese Morse, an American artist born in 1791, invented his telegraph in 1844 by combining lengths of wire covering the 57 miles between Washington and Baltimore. On May 24 of that year he sent his first coded message using electrical pulses of varied lengths: "What God hath wrought," he tapped out.

The international code was perfected at an 1851 conference of European nations.

The system developed an elaborate shorthand: GAOC, for example, came to mean Good Afternoon Old Chap". But what God and Morse had wrought, modern technology and France have made redundant.

GNOC — Good Night Old Chap.

MARY EVANS



Samuel Morse, artist and inventor, devised the famous code that bears his name

Warsaw says it can afford to join Nato

BY ROGER BOYES

POLAND yesterday took issue with pessimistic American analysts and advisers who are urging President Clinton to step back from his promise to project Nato into Central Europe in the next two years.

A report by the Warsaw-based Euro-Atlantic Association said Polish entry to the alliance need cost only a fraction of the sums calculated by the US Congressional Budget Office and the Rand Corporation.

Drawing on figures from the Defence Ministry and other government offices, Janusz Onyszkiewicz, the report's chief author, said American estimates of $61 billion (£38 million) for Central European accession were unrealistic. "The genuine cost can be accommodated within Poland's budget possibilities," Mr Onyszkiewicz, a former Defence Minister, said.

The direct cost would be just under $1.5 billion over 15 years with the bulk falling before 2000, the report said. Most of the sum — $1.26 billion — would be used for integrating Poland's command structure into the alliance, making communications compatible, ensuring that Eastern and Western air defence systems could work together and modernising military airfields. Mr Onyszkiewicz indicated that exaggerated figures in Washington were an attempt to slow eastward enlargement.

Feminists besiege monks

Madrid: Carthusian monks have appealed to the Pope for help after feminist groups threatened to force their way into their monastery near Zaragoza in northern Spain (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

The monastery is home to the largest mural in Spain. Painted in 1772 by Goya, who was born only a few miles away, it depicts the life of the Virgin Mary. Yet since the monks permit only men to enter their monastery, women have never been able to see Goya's work. Women's groups are campaigning for women to be allowed to see it on the ground that the painting was restored recently with the use of public money.

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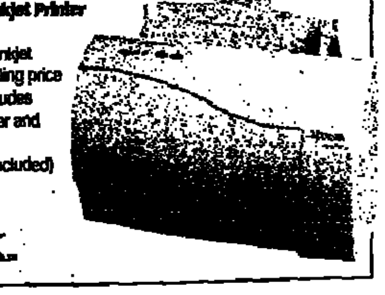

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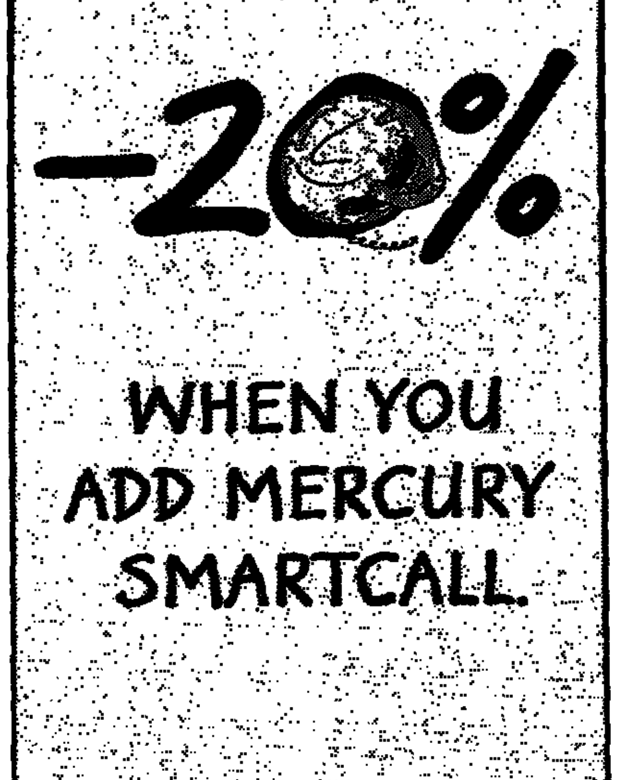

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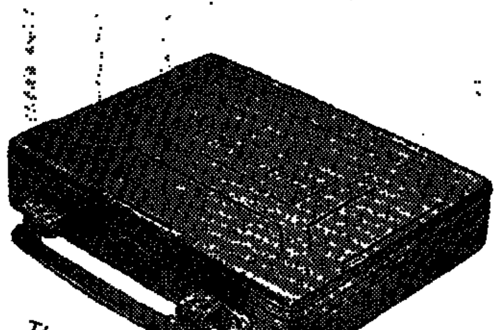

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John Galliano's spring-summer collection for Dior, where every detail is thought of from the clothes to the venue. His inspiration tends to be historical or anthropological

Alexander McQueen's first collection for Givenchy: "I am 27, not 57, so it's all bound to come from a different angle than the collection M Givenchy designed last year"

The British in Paris

The staid houses of Givenchy and Dior are appealing to a new kind of customer with the collections from the maverick Brits, says **Heath Brown**

British fashion design is leading the world at the moment, with the two hot names of John Galliano and Alexander McQueen at the forefront. They are making their mark at the Paris haute couture collections this week, where McQueen showed his debut collection for Givenchy and Galliano his for Dior. Many of the foreign press and buyers were hesitant in their praise of these appointments — worried that such maverick designers would not fit into the staid world of couture.

Already, after Galliano's previous collection for Givenchy (where he designed briefly last year before moving on to Dior) the purchasers of haute couture were beginning to fall away. "There were no customers left after last year," says Hale Rubenstein, buyer for Bloomingdales, of the reaction to McQueen's Givenchy show.

"There must be a game plan to bring in new customers," he adds. "It's the only way it will carry on." Indeed, a new customer for haute couture, where the dresses can cost up to £40,000, is desperately needed. Only about 2,000 haute couture customers remain. They are among the richest women in the world — and they are mostly over 50.

Katy England, creative director of Givenchy, is keen to emphasise that McQueen's head is not in the clouds. She says: "His next own-label collection will be totally wearable — good, sharp suits perfect for the older woman but in McQueen's signature silhouette."

A new appeal for a different kind of customer is what LVMH (Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy), the owners of both Dior and Givenchy, had in mind when they appointed such avant-garde designers as Galliano and McQueen. It is not the first time that a controversial appointment has been made in the hope of revitalising an haute couture house. In 1960, when Yves Saint Laurent took over the reins of Dior, there was press acclaim, but also the fear that traditional customers would leave in droves. In fact, he produced a ground-breaking collection, showing leather jeans, polo-neck sweaters and duffel coats in rich, new fabrics inspired by the street style of the students of the Rive Gauche. In the context of haute couture at the time, the look was utterly shocking. Saint Laurent went on to introduce the women's tuxedo — to the horror of some. But his revolutionary ideas were quick to gain acceptance. Today, his designs are firmly rooted in the fashion establishment, and the looks once thought of as "wild" are the norm on catwalks everywhere.

The jolt Saint Laurent administered to couture in the Sixties has an echo in what is happening with McQueen and Galliano now. In years to come, their designs will not seem as outlandish or bizarre as they do now — just beautiful and well-made.

"Look through the hype and theatrics," says Clinton Silver, chairman of the British Fashion Council, "and you will see fabrics cut and draped professionally and effortlessly — pure skill." Both McQueen and Galliano have had a good grounding in the craftsmanship of clothing. McQueen served an apprenticeship in Savile Row and studied at St Martin's School of Art; Galliano, another St Martin's graduate, also studied fashion there. But the designers approach their creativity very differently. With Galliano "every detail is thought of — from the clothes to the venue," says François Tessier, the head buyer at Browns. "He creates a fantasy and takes you there through his creations."

McQueen after his debut

His inspiration tends to be historical or anthropological. Nineteenth-century "Lily Langtry" dresses are mixed with Masai beading, or French revolutionary references combined with details borrowed from Gypsy and Native American culture.

Galliano's love of drawing inspiration from the V&A and the Metropolitan Museum in New York have earned him the reputation of being a museum junkie. "Usually, I see these things at the V&A and the Met, but now I actually touch them," he once said when given access to some of the exhibits.

There is thought to be a rivalry between the two stars, but neither admits to it. "There is no rivalry at all," says McQueen. "We just come from totally different planets, which is OK — we're not twins joined at the hip."

McQueen's approach is to push back the fashion barriers farther and farther. "I'm 27, not 57, so it's all bound to come from a different angle than the collection M Givenchy designed last year."

He strives to provide expertly tailored clothes, and appreciates the hard work the atelier has put into his first show. "That's why it was a bit over the top," he says. "You don't want boring models with washing-girl hairdos looking miserable on the catwalk when so much has been put into it all."

He despairs of the comments that have been made about the flamboyance of the show. "One year I put an Ethiopian child on a T-shirt, to show a more serious side, and got criticised — and the next I relax into fantasy and get criticism again. I can't win."

But the element of fantasy by both designers can be excused when we think of the unreal world at which their couture collections are aimed. "Who knows what these women wear and what kinds of lives they lead," he says.

It is the unique approach of the British designers that sets them apart. Part of their appeal is no doubt to do with the English sense of eccentricity, but a good part of the credit is also due to the excellent training the UK has to offer.

Art colleges such as Central St Martin's (the old St Martin's School of Art), Ravensbourne, and Metropolitan University in Manchester nurture talent and encourage experimentation and individuality.

In the past, British colleges were criticised for not taking the commercial aspects of the fashion industry into account. But now the sometimes outré designers they produce are, ironically, the only people capable of renewing the fantasy of haute couture.

Jane Shilling
DRESSED

What the baby books don't say about shopping

Smart shops and small children are a tricky combination

THE DAY my son was due, I had a premonition that something awful was about to happen. Not to him, but to me. Like a woman in the grip of an alien intelligence, I put on my coat and headed for Harvey Nichols, where I bought several fragile lace bras, a buttery soft kid jacket and a pair of black suede thigh boots. As I groped over my bump in an attempt to zip up the boots, the goggle-eyed assistant's curiosity finally overcame her icy professional poise. "When's the baby due, exactly?" she asked. "Today," said I, finally locating the zip. "Oooh my gawd," she squeaked, Knightsbridge accent all adrift in her dismay, "don't 'ave it 'ere, will you?"

> "That's a *horrible* frock. Why is your bottom all wobbly?"

Later that evening I felt a sudden pang. It turned out to be the baby on its way — but it might just as well have been a twinge of recognition that this was the last carefree shopping I would ever do.

The books for novice mothers are so eloquent on the frightful consequences of having a baby — everything slipping by about six inches — that it can come as as something of a surprise to find yourself much the same shape that you were when you started. A brief moment of smugness, and your thoughts naturally turn to the new season's collections. A little shopping expedition is indicated.

Now, this is the bit they don't tell you about in the baby books. The bit where you discover the truth about shopping with children. You think you have planned this excursion with some care. [illegible] at home, and lashed your infant to your front in his chic French navy sling. He sleeps like an angel as you arrive in the fitting room with an enticing armful of Ozbek and Conran and Rocha. The only thing is — what are you going to do with him now? There is nowhere to put him except on the floor. But what if you trod on him? What if he got tangled up with the garments and suffocated? Or even — you haven't had him for very long, after all — you might forget all about him and arrive home laden with carrier bags — but no baby. For a mad moment you consider asking the tiny Japanese shop assistant if she'd hold him. But one look at her basilisk gaze and you think better of it. At this point he begins to howl. You slink away, empty-handed.

Several years later, you think you might have another go. Your clothes are by now so out of date that they have almost become retro chic. Selling the idea to your son as a lovely bus ride and mummy might just pop into a shop for a moment, you push open the doors of your old stamping ground. All goes rather well for a bit. He sits quietly while you rustle into various delicious confections. Suddenly you panic. He is nowhere to be seen. Rushing out of the dressing-room, you see a small figure carrying a Philip Treacy feathered hat with a jewel-like trim. "Here's a present for you, mummy," he says. The jewel, you realise, is a half-sucked jelly-baby, which he has lovingly pressed into the glossy feathers.

YOU TELL yourself it will get better with time. It doesn't. At five, my son feels ready to share with me his trenchant opinions on fashion: "That's a *horrible* frock. And why is your bottom all wobbly?" From about seven onwards, friends tell me, one's children must stand silently, rolling their eyes. The whole business is so unutterably bloody that you begin to wonder why you do it. Until you remember that, however dreadful it is shopping with children, the experience pales into insignificance beside the Gothic horror of shopping with their father. But that's another story...

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Still waiting for the joy of sex

ASPECTS OF LOVE

In Part Three of our series on love in the Nineties, the novelist **Mavis Cheek** says women are still not satisfied

CHRIS HARRIS

Mavis Cheek: "What still exercises us to the very root of our being? Sex. Yours, mine, everybody's."

So, here we are, *fin de siècle*, a century that has seen two world wars, technological advances that make H. G. Wells look like Enid Blyton, political changes that the Tsar, Emperor or Kaiser would never have believed possible, not to mention the little old matter of Global Extinction — and what still exercises us to the very root of our being? Sex. Yours, mine, everybody's.

The Great Molochian God of Carnal Enterprise wants us all to be At It — as successfully as possible — and if we aren't, then something is seriously wrong. Celibacy no longer seems to exist in our lexicon. Basically the absorbing phenomenon of the 20th century is whether or not he is/she is/you are Getting Laid.

At the turn of the century, after Big Ben chimed the hour to usher in 1901, most of the wives (as they nearly exclusively were) who found themselves being whisked off to bed to begin the New Dawn with a Damn Good Seeing To, went with no expectations.

They were not required to enjoy it. The pleasure of sex was a right solely reserved for their husbands. And their husbands could take it or leave it. If they wanted to, they did, and if they didn't want to, they read the paper. Of course, dotted among the majority were a few enlightened spirits, but for those few women who did discover the joy of sex that night, it — or rather — they came as a nice surprise.

And then suddenly, out of the murky mists of this New Dawn, ventured enlightenment. The Blessed Marie Stopes, in many respects barking mad and therefore usefully indifferent to hostility, hove into view, dancing like a daisy on the lawn, flowing with classical drapery and looking just like Pandora reincarnate. Which, of course, she was. Because, having pointed out that women need not have sex solely to procreate, she also made the logical connection which has caused us more confusion, more anxiety, than anything ever since — the revolutionary notion that women, other than the likes of Moll Flanders and Peg of Old Drury, had the *right* to be pleasured, too. But it took us another few decades to get up enough steam to embrace the idea of sexual equality. And we still haven't cracked it.

Now you can call me a silly little running-dog of reactionary Post-Modernism if you like, but sex in the Sixties wasn't that revolutionary. The amount of it may have been. In fact, the amount certainly was. But what about the quality? The freedom to do It was as much the turn-on as the It itself. Naturally. Because we were still learning.

Who from that time does not remember the magazine *Forum*? Our monthly sex manual. "...Take her nipple between thumb and forefinger and roll it around until she begins to move with uncontrollable pleasure..." How many of us girls lay there patiently waiting for uncontrollable pleasure to commence while our boyfriends painstakingly followed the instructions? And if it didn't, how many of us suffered a creeping sense of William Brown lays Violet Elizabeth Bott? Well what can you expect if you're only a girl?

And then there was *The Joy Of Sex*. A moustachioed man looking like the romantic icon Che Guevara and a woman looking like somebody's auntie, together playing a rather dull instructional game of doctors and nurses... sold in its thousands.

All gains are losses. Not that I advocate endless pregnancies and no right over our twiddly bits, but where once we women could totter about in our bustles and corsets and not have the worry of whether the earth moved, since Ms Stopes's profound percipience, and the sexual cloudburst of the Sixties, we now totter about in our high heels and Wonderbras flaring our nostrils and trembling inside in case it doesn't. Casual sex? Hah!

And to confound us all even further, the blokes aren't having too easy a time either. The primal urge of the hunter/gatherer with animal tendencies and a built-in programme to think about sex every six minutes which has, presumably, taken several thousand years to perfect (and obviously in some cases requires several thousand more), must give way in a mere 30 years to one who will look butch in a pinny, cook, sew, wash, and discuss our PMT on one side of the bedroom door, and then swing from a chandelier emulating a pogo stick and saying Me Tarzan on the other.

Were my 18-year-old daughter, who is about to embark on a university career studying useless old things like literature and art, to listen to a word I say, she would read psychology and become a sex therapist. I could give up novels, and we could both live side by side in mansions in Regent's Park.

This time, when Big Ben chimes the hour of the new century *and* millennium, there will be a lot of anxious people standing around thinking about the best way to organise the celebratory bonk.

The women will be wearing condoms in their hats and wondering if they dare say "How about it" without risking deflation in the pogo stick department because the primal hunter/gatherer hasn't quite understood that he's free of his need to show how bold he is. And quite a lot of the women will secretly sigh for the days when he said "Ugh" and threw you over his shoulder and that was that.

The men will either assert themselves by drinking a lot, thereby ending the question anyway. Or they will put their hearts and souls into looking as if *they* have no expectations and avoid staring at the hat. Either way, there will be a lot of anxiety floating about. The worst bit of all is that everybody else will look as if they have cracked it. You will feel you are the only one on the planet who has not.

And for those of us who thought carnal old Moloch would leave us alone when our teeth started falling out — we must think again. In a recent study on sexuality, it was stated that folk in their sixties and seventies were now having the best sex of their lives.

This seems a very positive, not to say mind-boggling, discovery. Especially since I pictured myself fetching up with a rubber hip joint and a hearing aid, somewhere on the South Coast, and being perfectly poisonous to everybody at last. Instead, the voracious Moloch chomps on. Not to let the side down, I must besport a dainty varicose ankle and give the glad eye to some old geezer on the next bench to mine. And he, poor chap, must woggle his dewlaps, set aside his copy of *The Oldie*, and offer me a good time.

And Oh Lor, what about procedures? In the old days it used to follow that when two people took their glasses off, you knew they meant business — now, presumably, the significant moment is when he or she lets the Zimmer frame drop. It puts a whole new courtly meaning on He Fell At My Feet. And, of course, a whole new perspective on Getting Laid.

● *Mavis Cheek's latest novel, Getting Back Brahms, will be published by Faber on April 21, price £14.99*

Women aren't taking men's jobs because they've won the equality battle. It's about cutting costs

Paying the price for not minding the wage gap . . .

Nigella Lawson

Women on Top: Why it's better to be a woman: Sometimes it's hard to be a man: Women win battle of the sexes: these are just some recent headlines to stories documenting the upward rise of the female sex.

It has become the accepted wisdom of the day that no longer are the odds stacked against us and that, indeed, it is now men — underachieving at school, unwanted in the workplace — who more properly justify the term the *second sex*. Strange, then, that the report just out from the Equal Opportunities Commission confirms none of this. Far from women having gained supremacy, they — we — haven't even achieved equality. Women still earn, on average, 20 per cent less than their male counterparts and not until the year 2040, it is reckoned, will that gap close.

These are shocking findings, but peculiarly satisfying to read all the same. It is important that we see the facts and are forced to recognise that the essentially misogynistic picture of women as greedy looters and appropriators of the rights and jobs of men is a false one. The evidence points to the fact that men are still being paid a premium just for being male.

Clearly this is wrong. What case could there be to argue for it? And yet there are plenty of people who would be happy to see a greater disparity in men and women's pay: indeed, they would like to see women out of the workplace altogether.

I can understand why certain men should feel that the world would be a better place if women stayed at home while men went out to work. And I have a glimmer of understanding why some women support this view. Men whose supremacy has been questioned are bound to be resentful, and who wouldn't protect their own power base?

The female argument for unequal pay, or so little pay that there could be no incentive to enter the workplace, is superficially different, but essentially the same. Women who regard the office as a male preserve need to feel that the domestic sphere is valued or, more, that they are valued for remaining in and shaping it. Any appreciation of a female workforce feels like a criticism of them: inequality of pay is the last remaining corroboration of their way of life.

There is, however, some truth in the depiction of women finding employment at the cost of men losing theirs. What people should recognise, though, is that this is a consequence of the unfair pay differential. Employers don't give jobs to women because of some feminist drive or belief in the higher ability of women to get the job done. They do it because it cuts their wages bill. Indeed, many women at the lower end of the scale (the ones working part-time who are earning 58 per cent less than the full-time men doing the same job) may be bizarrely grateful for the inequality even as they resent it. Of course, too much attention is always paid to women at the other, loftier, end of the scale. Somehow it is difficult to have sympathy for a female film star who complains that she gets a mere $2 million a movie while her male counterparts are paid three or more times that amount. Nevertheless, it does influence, subliminally, the way we regard all complaints about pay gaps and their unfairness.

Women who complain about their pay are just whingers as far as most people are concerned; "lucky to have a job at all" is, one deduces, the implication. Implicit also is the notion that by entering the workforce women are taking men's jobs away from them. But only historically is this true. Women may be taking jobs once done by men but that doesn't make any job a man's job. Men do not have any more right to employment than women do, although the fact that they get paid more for doing the same work might seem to suggest that this is indeed the case.

One might think, though, that it would be impossible for a workforce so unequally renumerated to work together. But while unemployment is high, who is in a position to complain? Besides — apart from those industries which still operate a fixed wage scale — which of us ever knows what the next employee is earning? The demise of unionised labour on the one hand means that more and more salaries are paid according to personal contracts. That is especially true in managerial occupations which, incidentally, have a particularly large sex-pay differential. And on the other hand, now that sex is no longer a taboo, money increasingly is. No one discusses what they get paid over here and would rather die than ask what a colleague's salary is.

It is also undeniable that even though society, the way we live our lives, has changed, at the back of our minds is the idea that a man is the breadwinner. He must earn to support a wife and children: women, if they are not selfish careerists hellbent on their own advancement, are otherwise just working for pin money. There couldn't be a more outdated and economically out-of-focus picture of how we live now, and yet we seem unable or disinclined to accept that. But then, change is always difficult. There is bound to be a lag between reality and the image we have of it.

But in the case of pay, it seems that this discrepancy has worked the other way round. We are so convinced that we live in the great post-feminist age (and *that's* a phrase that should immediately be scrubbed from the language) that we are in danger of overlooking the actual evidence: which is that unless we do something about it, it will take another half century for us to achieve the equality that we fondly though erroneously imagine we have long since won.

* * *

I AM far from impressed by the idea of the new "future-proof" phone. It's not the proposed revision (yet again) of the telephone numbers that exercises me particularly, but the talk that goes with it of our "maintaining our place in the forefront of world telecommunications".

For I have come to the conclusion that we are not temperamentally suited to be any place other than at the very slagheap of world telecommunications. I cite in evidence Call Waiting. This is a means by which one can tell someone is trying to ring when one is already on the phone.

This works wonderfully in America but not at all over here. Every time I ring someone who's got Call Waiting (and is already talking to someone else) and hear the electronic message come down the line telling me not to hang up — "the person you are calling knows you are waiting" — I become enraged. Because everyone here is so afraid of seeming rude by letting their first caller know that a second is on the line that they ignore the signal.

Now, I have some sympathy with that ditheriness: it's why, after all, I don't have Call Waiting on my line. But please, would others similarly craven just drop the service? From the caller's point of view, it would be better to hear an engaged signal rather than be left hanging on with someone turning insult to injury by telling us that our presence is being noted — just ignored.

TOMORROW

"The nurse didn't go so far as to say: 'Have you ever heard of contraception?' But her lecture was stinging"

Maureen Freely on the pleasures of parenthood

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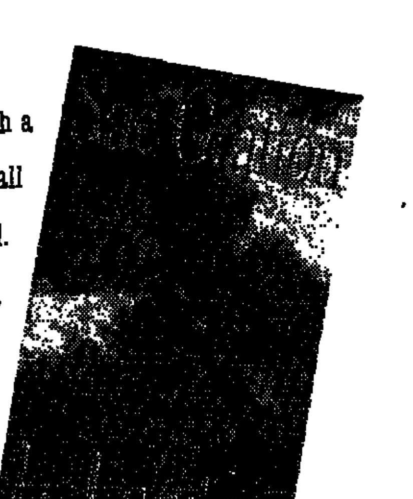

هكذا من الأصل

Alan Coren

■ Welcome to the poll of the century, and goodbye to the century of the poll

I have, I do believe, the key to the Great Millennium Exhibition. I even know what that key, shed of metaphor, would look like. It would look like a Yale key. I know this because, if the nation were asked to vote for its favourite key, the Yale would unquestionably come top. It would leave the Chubb and the Ingersoll at the post.

And that is the key to the key: for the key to the Great Millennium Exhibition is *vox populi*. And since it seems to be generally agreed that what the Greenwich Megadome should contain is the quintessence of Britain, it must surely follow, in these poll-driven times, that it has to be left to the British people to determine what that quintessence is. There must, before the Megadome is topped out, be national referendums about everything it is to enshrine.

This revelation came to me in the small hours of Tuesday morning, when, as so often, I had given up counting sheep in favour of gathering their wool, and it came while I was mulling the curious fact that, a few hours earlier, the British people had elected *The Lord of the Rings* as their book of the century. I tried to picture someone enjoying it, and suddenly Des Lynam sprang (all right, sauntered) into my mind. It took but a moment to realise why: it was because Des himself had, a month back, been elected by the British as their personality of the century. Who better, then, to place in a snug fireside chair, deep in Middle Earth, accompanied only by the voice of Doris Day trilling *Move Over, Darling* — which the British recently voted song of the century — as the core exhibit and icon of Megadome 2000?

But how shall we determine the nature of Des's fireside chair? A poll must be held. It will almost certainly come up with a reproduction Regency wing item in green leather, with distressed buttons. And, of course, a matching pouffe, for what I am sure the British people will decide are Des's Hush Puppies. As for Des's real puppies, who can doubt that some 87 per cent of the population will plump for yellow labradors, to match his lavatory paper, itself a landslide victory? What these are romping on, mind, as Des chuckles over his elves, is less guessable: once, it would have been figured Wilton, later a nice shagpile, but the bucolic style is a strong runner these days — cf. Des's log fire, which pulled over 70 per cent of the heating vote — and it could well be that the Megadome will end up with restored floorboards and a scatter of John Lewis oriental rugs, even if these do sit somewhat uneasily with his nice Anglepoise lamp, unquestionably Britain's illumination of choice.

Oh, look, Des is reaching for a tasty titbit from the recently elected oakette table, usefully de-nested beside his chair. Megadome visitors crane to see. Will it be a stick of KitKat or a nibble of Mars? This time I cannot anticipate, the voting will have been close, there is even an outside chance that a Penguin will sneak up and snatch victory at the wire; one prays only that it does not spoil his appetite (voted Britain's second favourite caution, after "mind how you go") for the Delia Smith steak-and-kidney pudding currently simmering in his (solid-fuel) Aga in the Megadome's flagstoned and copper-hung kitchen.

I feel some of you growing restless, as 2000 approaches, over what you will see hanging on Des's wall: will it be a Tretchikoff or a David Shepherd? Well, very likely both — unless, between now and then, some sly opportunist knocks up a green-faced woman riding an elephant, especially if he throws in a couple of gleaners for good measure.

And has Des been voted a car? He has: beyond his mullioned window (through which, at every hour on the hour, the hologrammed face of dear Eric Morecambe will pop, asking Des to bring him sunshine), the British people's most cherished motor sits in the rose-girt drive. It is a Morris Minor. Very soon now, Des will put down Tolkien, turn off Doris, wind the carriage clock which beat its grandfather only after a recount, and drive across the Megadome to a thatched pub with a big blonde barmaid and a shove-ha'penny board for a pint of lukewarm bitter and a Smith's Original crisp. He will not, however, stay long. He must get back for an early dinner. Because tonight, as every night, Des has tickets for *The Mousetrap*.

Give charity a chance

The most vulnerable among us, the old and the young, need to be freed from the dead hand of the welfare state

Simon Jenkins

Slowly the fog begins to thin. From its depths we see dark shapes of things to come. There looms the gaunt visage of Gordon Brown. Round him chatter dwarfs — Blunkett, Smith, Harman, Straw — tugging at his purse. Over them worries a wizard covered in glitter, his face a rictus smile. We mortals thought we knew it all. We stumble blinking from the grim Nineties to be told of a land of bright promise ahead. Yet what horror do these creatures of the fog foretell? They are not true Hobbits.

Which brings me to social services privatisation. On Friday of each week, spin-doctors fan out from the party headquarters to tell the Sunday papers what to print. Last Friday the Tory doctors told them to print a story about how the last bastions of the welfare state, old people's and children's care, were to be kicked out of the public sector. Ministers still had red blood in their veins, a White Paper would be published and blue water put between the parties. The papers duly printed this rainbow tale.

They also printed Labour's instant denunciation. The relevant dwarf, Chris Smith, derided this "clapped-out ideology". He condemned those who could savage the "most vulnerable in our society". Destitute women, orphans and the disabled, he implied, were to be thrown to the wolves of private profit. At last, thought Mr Smith, here was a socialist bone on which he could chew. Yet between breakfast and dinner, somebody got at Mr Smith. By Sunday the policy was transformed. It would be looked at pragmatically. No option was being rejected, only a "central diktat". Was Mr Smith outraged? No. Was he all sweet reason? Of course.

What changed Mr Smith was the rattling chains and the clanking fetters of Mr Brown. Mr Brown is already the embodiment of "the Treasury view". He is more than Chancellor-in-waiting. He is jailer of the demon of "tax-and-spend", whose escape his colleagues are always trying to effect. Sub-contracting personal social services for the elderly and children is likely to save money. It might recoup as much as £2 billion a year if forcefully implemented. If it upsets the unions and enrages the Left, too bad — or so good.

In British public administration, some policies are born dull, some achieve dullness and some (such as Europe) have dullness thrust upon them. Personal social services are all three. They embody Bagehot's dictum that good government aspires to the state of tedium. They are a backwater of a backwater. Even VAT regulations sparkle compared with residential and domiciliary care for the elderly and young people. These services may employ a quarter of a million people in England and Wales. They may cost £8 billion, the equivalent of 4p on income tax. But they are about the incontinent old, the retarded young, the incurable, the uncontrollable, the unthinkable. We wish to fund them and forget. We want them to be dull.

When in the 1980s Margaret Thatcher pressed the welfare state to go out to tender, she meant refuse collection, school buses, street-cleaning and hospital laundries. The result has been generally successful. Prices fell, efficiency rose and many a lucrative union racket was smashed. Labour has no pledge to rescind the policy. In 1993, the same was supposed to happen to old people's homes. A target was set of 85 per cent of places to be privately provided. Only 46 per cent has been achieved. As for children in care, 60 per cent are privately fostered, but almost all the rest are in local council homes.

Some of these institutions are admirable and efficient. Some are not: witness yesterday's revelations about childcare in Clwyd. There may be nothing peculiarly unsaintly about a public-sector home, but there is something peculiarly inefficient. The annual report of the Department of Health shows unit costs in the public sector rising steadily ahead of inflation. New figures apparently also show that costs in the private sector are roughly 20 per cent lower than in the public. In addition, as one scandal after another testifies, local council homes are not independently inspected. They are truly out of sight and out of mind.

Nobody is calling for the State to abandon responsibility for the vulnerable young and old. From the foundling hospital to the great charitable asylums, the voluntary sector served the nation well. Today, "caring" is a central function of the welfare state. But to care does not mean to provide. A service can be stipulated, purchased and monitored. He who pays the piper can call the tune, but he need not play the pipe.

We now know that the rot of child abuse that Dickens exposed in the unregulated charitable sector can spread largely undetected through the public sector. The account given yesterday by the former social services director of Clwyd was a harrowing instance of "producer capture". Here was a union-dominated service on which nobody dared blow the whistle.

Care of the vulnerable is itself vulnerable. It attracts both the best and the worst of human characteristics. A child in care now has, depending on the area, between £150 and £300 a week spent on him or her. This is more than all but the very wealthiest families spend on a child. The State is entitled to value for money. Small wonder that officials charged with spending such sums want to see them go to homes run by friends and party colleagues. Small wonder that they prefer fostering to adoption, because fostering keeps children under their control and the money flowing. (The stifling of adoption in Britain by local political activists is costly and cruel, both to children and to prospective parents.)

Most Tory reforms have been hostile to diversity in public service. Schools, hospitals, clinics, libraries and police stations all now operate under centralised regimes unthinkable 20 years ago. Local government is disempowered, and scope for innovation has been diminished. But one reform has undoubtedly energised local government: competitive tendering of non-personal services. Streets are cleaner and rubbish is better collected as a result.

Personal services have proved more delicate. The care of the elderly, the mentally disabled and children without families is unlikely to be a popular candidate for selling to a French water company or American entrepreneur. Allowing people to profit from taxes paid for the care of the elderly is not an appealing prospect — except under the most tightly monitored contracts. What is attractive is the opening this policy offers to the charitable sector.

The voluntary principle that begat Barnado's 112 homes was a good one. There is no evidence that the State has any unique competence in caring for children without families. The word charity was once applied to the noblest human emotion. In the 1960s it was turned into a smear word to justify the growth of union co-operatives. "Not charity but a right" was the slogan. It applied to social benefits but should never have applied to social services.

Neither charity nor its benighted sister "the public service ethos" has fared well under the financial hierarchies beloved of Thatcherite ministers. Only one police chief, Hampshire's John Hoddinott, refused to sign the Home Office's odious payment-by-results bonus scheme, protesting that a public servant should need no bribe to work his best. The proposal to put old people's services and childcare out to tender is a gamble, a gamble with the nation's charity and its ethos of public service.

The gamble is honourable. It is a truth widely acknowledged that people care more about their fellow humans when doing so voluntarily, even unpaid. They may need sensitive selection, supervision, equipment and inspection. But Britain's existing volunteer services, such as the lifeboats and the Samaritans, are exemplars. The charitable instinct is inherent in the concept of a strong community. It leads to the forming of associations, Adam Smith's "bonds of sympathy, compassion and fellow feeling", de Tocqueville's "bedrocks of democracy". Community has had a bleak time under the Tories. Perhaps its hour has come in this worthy cause.

The enthusiast for local democracy must learn to separate sheep from goats. Personal social services are not like roads or schools or planning, where political questions ought to be decided by election. They are national services, best purchased locally and best provided privately. Labour's second thoughts on this were better than its first.

A Cabinet seat for Europe

Will Blair will set up a new ministry, asks **Sue Cameron**

If Tony Blair makes it to Downing Street this spring he may well find on his desk a Whitehall brief arguing the case for a new "Department for Europe". Five years ago, the file prepared for Neil Kinnock included such a proposal, but it was shelved when Labour lost the election. Now, with campaigning under way in earnest, officials are looking at the idea again as they prepare advice for possible new ministers. This time the need for a radical rethink about how the British government machine deals with Europe is far more urgent.

The dithering and disunity of politicians is causing Whitehall itself to falter. Civil servants are being pressurised on all sides. At home their political masters and their putative political masters in the Labour Party are bickering and backtracking over Europe. Once it would not have mattered to Whitehall, for officials were able to take a long view of Brussels and all its works. No longer.

Today other leading members of the EU are stepping up the pace, setting tight deadlines, pressing for answers. The meeting this month between John Major and Wim Kok, Prime Minister of The Netherlands, which currently holds the EU presidency, showed that Britain's partners are determined to push ahead with a new treaty in Amsterdam this June. For British officials there is no escape. As the Conservative MEP Graham Mather puts it: "Suddenly Europe has become a red-hot-coals job for Whitehall civil servants, and there's nowhere for them to hide. The problem is that Whitehall hasn't re-engineered itself to cope with Europe and the fact that today all the wicked issues are European — from mad cows to economic and monetary policy."

Mr Mather is among those who believe Britain needs a Department for Europe headed by a Cabinet minister and with its own permanent secretary and subject specialists. Adherents of the idea — inside and outside Whitehall — say that if Britain is to get to the heart of Europe then we must have a department to spearhead such a drive and to act as a focus for European policy.

More significantly, they insist that if Britain wants to halt further integration of the EU nations, the need for a separate department is even greater. They stress that only a department with real clout inside the government machine can stop what some see as a European tidal wave lapping over government departments. The way to negotiate a multi-speed Europe, they claim, is to have a single, co-ordinating department dedicated to achieving that.

There is already a unit in the Cabinet Office charged with the job of co-ordinating Whitehall's response to Europe in crucial matters such as the inter-governmental conference. It is well regarded — not least by continental civil servants — and could form the nucleus of a new department. There is also a Minister for Europe, but David Davis, the current holder of the post, is not in the Cabinet. He is therefore outranked by all Cabinet ministers in Britain and also by his opposite numbers in France and Germany. Michele Barnier, the French Minister for Europe, is of Cabinet rank, as is Germany's Werner Hoyer.

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, whose pleas to Tory Eurosceptics to stop bickering were rebuffed on Monday, has called for a Cabinet-rank minister for Europe. In his book *The Challenge of Europe — Can Britain Win?*, he says such a post would "enhance parliamentary accountability while going some way to remedy the weakness of departmental ministers who are available only part-time for their European responsibilities". It is a pity he has not acted on his theory.

Opposition to the creation of a Department for Europe will come from some Foreign Office people who fear it would diminish their empire. The Foreign Secretary, whether the Tory Malcolm Rifkind or Labour's Robin Cook, is likely to fight the idea for precisely that reason. Yet there is a halfway house.

Over at the Treasury, the Chief Secretary has Cabinet rank, although there is no doubt that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is the boss. A new Department for Europe could be kept under the aegis of the Foreign Office with its Cabinet-rank minister deferring ultimately to the Foreign Secretary. Britain experimented with such a system when Lord Carrington was Foreign Secretary and Sir Ian (now Lord) Gilmour spoke on foreign affairs as a Cabinet minister in the Commons.

Action to prime the government machine on Europe is urgently needed. It would be unkind to suggest that parts of Whitehall are in a blue funk about Europe, but it might be accurate. Officials are increasingly worried about being drawn willy-nilly into the political battle over Europe — so much so that some are nervous of fighting Britain's corner as hard as they might over bread-and-butter matters.

Others are said to be so fearful of Eurosceptic MPs accusing them of drawing up "secret" schemes for joining a single currency that they are not putting enough effort into the prudent and necessary contingency plans.

Whatever political decisions are taken about the EU after the election, a Department for Europe would help to concentrate the minds of ministers and officials. It would encourage an end to the paralysis gripping our politicians and lend a new robustness to Britain's dealings with its EU partners. That is something that both Europhobes and Europhiles might welcome.

Ego centre

ATTEMPTS to turn Sigmund Freud's birthplace into a museum are being met with fierce resistance by its owners, who run it as a massage parlour.

The birthplace is not on the scale of the Freud Museum in north London, but the local council in Pribor, in the Czech Republic, wants to buy it, considering it a wasted asset in a town whose main feature is the Lonka sock factory.

The Freud family — Sigmund, his mother and wool merchant father — lived in the 16ft by 16ft basement of the house until Freud moved to Vienna in 1859. The room now contains fake marble flooring and white sofas. A plastic Hawaiian sunset curtain separates the reception from the ultraviolet-lit massage room.

"We are offering our own sort of therapy," says Mrs Matula, the owner, surrounded by her jars of massage oil and Chinese relaxation balls. She has asked the council for the equivalent of £80,000 for the house at 117 Schlossergasse. "Too much," they say, offering £11,000.

Perhaps this is justice for Pribor's long neglect of its most famous son. It was only in 1969 that the town built a monument to him, and it took until 1994 to give him honorary citizenship.

"Our trouble," moans a perceptive deputy mayor, "is that most people only connect Freud with Vienna, and definitely not with a massage parlour in a North Moravian town."

- *Stringent measures have been introduced at* The Guardian, *where reporters are accustomed to using taxis to gad about town. In an attempt to discourage such extravagance, the paper has bought two bicycles to be used by journalists. The Editor's office explains that its troops will get to stories faster than ever before.*

YOUR DIALLING CODE IS NOW 021340850012597
Cliff

THE TIMES DIARY

Booking out

AT THE *Evening Standard*, they were mourning the resignation of their literary editor Andrew (A.N.) Wilson on the eve of the Whitbread Book of the Year Award. He is leaving to write novels.

Claims that he fell out with the Editor, Max Hastings, a man happiest on a rough shoot in the wilds of Ireland, after being forced to review angling books and tales of country pursuits are scotched by Hastings himself. "It's very sad that he's decided to resign after seven years, but he's going to carry on writing for us," he says. "If there was any acrimony about this, I doubt he would be planning to spend the weekend with me — which he is." Hastings would not be drawn on a successor, but Miriam Gross, the longstanding literary editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, is being mentioned.

Bill's men

ANYONE who thought President Clinton had given up on Northern Ireland may have been surprised to find two Ulstermen attending his inauguration by personal invitation. John McCaffrey, the director of development at the University of Ulster, and David Kitchen, the director of university programmes, say they were flown over as guests of Bill, whom they met during his visit to Belfast in 1995. "We've had good tickets and we've been hanging out with the President's stepsister," said Kitchen. No matter that no one recalls Clinton having a stepsister.

Grrrrrrls

OVER in Hollywood, they are preparing for the Oscars with a certain trepidation. They are afraid that this year's awards ceremony could turn nasty because of tensions between two singers-turned-actresses: Madonna and Courtney Love.

Madonna and Love: will the Oscars drive them wild?

Not only do the dear girls not like each other, they share a career path, from raunchy to almost respectable. Madonna, once noted for her conical bras, is now the Oscar-tipped star of *Evita*. Love, a princess of "grunge" and widow of the junkie Kurt Cobain, has been turning up to showings of her movie *The People vs. Larry Flynt* in designer dresses.

Madonna has said that she has nightmares of Love pursuing her with a gun, while Love has compared Madonna to a vampire. She has also added: "Every decade has its star and Madonna was it in the Eighties. But the Eighties are over." Prepare for a catfight.

- *Brian Clivaz, the manager who brought chess tournaments back to Simpson's-in-the-Strand, has handed in his resignation to pursue his own business interests. With every inch of his 50-inch waist a testament to the production of the finest roasts and steam puds, Clivaz is a force to be reckoned with. Simpson's will feel empty without him.*

P·H·S

مركز الأهرام

GERMANY LOOKS EAST

But Central Europe should not take its commitment for granted

The ghost of Munich was finally laid to rest yesterday, with the formal signing in Prague of a joint declaration by Helmut Kohl and Vaclav Klaus, the Czech Prime Minister, to cement the postwar reconciliation between Germany and the Czech Republic. In the accord, Germany expressed "sorrow" at the Nazi occupation and the Czechs "regretted" the expulsion after the Second World War of 2.5 million Germans from the Sudetenland. Herr Kohl also promised to support Czech membership of the European Union. The accord is intended to end one of the bitterest legacies of Hitler's aggression, remove the last barrier to German influence in *Mitteleuropa* and speed the entry of Germany's eastern neighbours into the European Union. Yet all three hopes may yet be disappointed; and Eastern Europe has reason to fear a new betrayal.

The courage and vision of Herr Kohl and Mr Klaus are not in question. Both men were determined to seek an accommodation despite fierce domestic opposition. Neither received in full what he wanted. And both know that the resentment of the German expellees as well as the Czechs who lost families and property during the German occupation will continue to poison domestic politics and public sentiment. Neither was fully able to acknowledge guilt at what happened; talk of "sorrow" and "regret" will still look mealy-mouthed to those who remember what took place on Czechoslovak soil.

Yet the accord does, at last, allow Germany to restore its political and cultural influence to an area where over the centuries it has played a generally determining role. This influence can already be seen on the ground; since the collapse of communism, German firms, capital, exports and know-how have moved in to take full advantage of the new markets in Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Germany is by far the biggest market for East European industries struggling to break out of the stifling constrictions of the old Comecon framework. Given the sluggish response from other Western capitals and the failure of industry in countries such as Britain to respond to the yearning of the newly liberated peoples to be reconnected, spiritually and economically, to the West, this comes as no surprise. Bonn simply filled the vacuum which had been left by the departing Russians.

For many in Germany's hinterland, the investment by Volkswagen, the neon lights advertising German washing machines, the beer and foodstuffs from Bavaria, the training opportunities and weekend tourist trips are welcome. Inevitably, German industrial habits, the German language and the German vision of the new Europe have swept in with the consumer tide.

But not all economists or politicians are without reservations. They do not want to swap dependency on Moscow for Berlin. Above all, they are not convinced, despite warm words in Bonn, that Germany is as zealous in promoting their interests within the EU as it is in furthering its own interests to the east.

The crucial demand of Budapest, Warsaw and Prague is for access to EU markets, especially for their farm products. And Germany has shown that it is far from championing the cause of the EU applicants. Appeasing the demands of inefficient farmers in Bavaria sways decision-making in Bonn.

There has been a clear retreat in Germany from a commitment to the earliest possible EU entry of the Central Europeans, with emphasis instead on consolidating monetary and political integration among the present members. Already, Eastern Europeans fear Nato backsliding over fast entry into the Atlantic alliance. Nothing would be crueller than to encourage them to prepare for EU membership while holding up their exports at the frontier and their aspirations at the negotiating table.

STILL IN WAITING

The perils of appearing to be already in power

It is Opposition parties who are supposed to endure humiliation. Their Shadow Foreign Secretaries are mistaken for ambassadors by American Presidents. Their spokesmen work in cubbyholes, with a researcher, a shared secretary and a dog. They lament the lack of media coverage for their policies. And they have to rely on the Tube to take them to fashionable parties.

So it must be amusing for Labour Party leaders to experience the tables being turned. Last week's wrangling over the Millennium Exhibition, for instance, had the Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, visiting Tony Blair's office to request the Labour leader to support the Millennium Commission's plans for Greenwich. This had all the ingredients that Mr Blair's spin-doctors could have wished for: the public was left with the impression that Labour was merely awaiting the summons to govern in a few months' time.

Then yesterday, at the launch of a report by top businessmen that broadly backed Labour's policies, Mr Blair had another chance to embarrass Mr Heseltine. The Deputy Prime Minister, having first declined an invitation to attend the launch, had asked if he could come after all once he saw how much publicity the event would generate for Labour. Mr Blair joked that he would have to resort to the new stalking laws if the Deputy Prime Minister followed him to Amsterdam on Friday.

This is all good knockabout stuff. And the Government has clearly contributed to the public's perception of Labour as a government-in-waiting. With a tiny majority, the Tories' discipline has become ragged, and they govern at the mercy of events: last night's health vote saw fierce bullying by the whips. Labour likes to boast of the changed policies that it has achieved even in opposition: reduced VAT on fuel, stalking and paedophile Bills, a Bill on combat knives, and greater supervision of police bugging.

But Mr Blair still has to win an election before he can govern the country. Labour does not assume power from the Conservatives this year as if it were Luxembourg taking over the presidency of the European Union from The Netherlands. If business leaders are queueing up to back the Opposition, they are doing so on the balance of probabilities. As any bookmaker knows, a racing certainty can easily be defeated.

Mr Blair must be assuming that, once momentum builds up behind a party, it can attract voters who want to be associated with the winning side. And, when a party has been out of office for 18 years, there is clearly a benefit to be gained from looking ready for government. But there is a countervailing effect too. Britons are famously sympathetic to underdogs; and equally intolerant of presumption.

The line between looking prime ministerial and seeming complacent is very thin. Mr Blair rightly tells his party that voters should not be taken for granted. He would not be human if he did not secretly revel in the attention and approbation which is being showered upon him by former foes. But he should be careful not to let it show too much.

WAR OF THE GREENS

Vegetables can be interesting, but are not the only virtuous food

Parents are said to have lost the battle over what children eat. Yesterday's report from Strathclyde University asserts that new generations of children are being exposed to a greater risk of cancer because they are bullying their parents into letting them eat whatever they want. The report is interpreted as an indictment of official healthy eating campaigns. It criticises schools for letting pupils pick junk food. And it asserts that Christmas lunch is the only meal in the year at which children receive an adequate intake of vegetables. This assertion begs the broccoli of whether children consider Brussels sprouts and parsnips to be edible vegetables in the strict acceptance of both terms.

Now it is obvious that parents (and nannies in households that have them) exercise less tyrannical authority over the table than once they did. This is one of the few areas of their lives that children control, because they have the power to refuse to eat. And there is statistical evidence that people, including children, are growing fatter: especially in the Western world, especially in the United States, especially in the poorer families. Anecdotal evidence suggests that children live on crisps and sweets, cereals and spaghetti rings. And *Economist* figures for 1997 show that household consumption of fresh green vegetables has fallen from 406 grammes per person per week to 245 grammes 30 years later. So the old tribal exhortation to eat up one's greens, accompanied by vague threats, no longer simply falls on reluctant ears. It is not even uttered.

But parents have always projected their fears and obsessions on their children. And our current dietary fads stem partly from the admirable modern craze for healthy living, and partly from folk memories of war and rationing. But today's diet experts who live off the fat of the land would disapprove of previously approved British regimes of fortifying bread and dripping and suet puddings. Greens and other vegetables contain vitamins, nutrients and roughage essential to healthy growth. But then so do plenty of other foods now available.

During the same period in which the statisticians find that average consumption of fresh green vegetables declined, consumption of fresh fruit and frozen vegetables rose sharply. (This latest research into children's diets was funded by a frozen food company and the Cancer Research Campaign.) Supermarketing has brought to the shelves vegetables that were considered exotic weeds a generation ago, and keeps them there through every season. Modern cooking has found tastier recipes for vegetables than boiling them to pulp. And salads of a variety undreamt of a generation ago are a favourite dish — of teenage girls at least.

The human body is a magnificently adaptable machine. Provided that the body is kept active, a naturally healthy hunger will usually find a healthy diet. So the changing fads of the experts should always be taken with a pinch of salt. And children should be encouraged to develop their own tastes. These could well include vegetables.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Aims of those who took UK into EEC

From Mr Norman Lamont, MP for Kingston-upon-Thames (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Edward Heath's letter (January 18; see also letters, January 21) is unconvincing. In 1972, Sir Geoffrey Howe, then the Solicitor-General responsible for taking the European Communities Bill through the House, said:

> Let us remind ourselves of the original Treaties of Rome and Paris. They set out, essentially, to establish a "Common Market". It is this basically simple economic concept — the establishment of a single market, a single trading area throughout Europe — that is at the heart of the Community.

There was not much mention here of a directly elected Parliament, a European passport, European citizenship or a single currency.

The 1971 White Paper stated: "There is no question of any erosion of essential national sovereignty." It did go on to say that the EEC involved "a sharing and enlargement of national sovereignties". Thus the White Paper gave the impression of defending national sovereignty to disguise the true position, and enable its advocates to assert that only inessential sovereignty was being handed over.

It is completely misleading to say that sovereignty is being enlarged: "pooling" national sovereignty self-evidently means it is being given away. No wonder ordinary people lose patience with such sophistry and feel betrayed.

Sir Edward Heath seems to confuse sovereignty with power. They are not the same thing. Sovereignty is the freedom to make your own laws for your own people through your own parliament. That right is being rapidly eroded and on a scale certainly never revealed to the British people in the early 1970s.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN LAMONT,
House of Commons.
January 21.

From Lord Beloff

Sir, By quoting from a silly little book I wrote as a cloistered don nearly 30 years ago, Professor Bogdanor (letter, January 21) has proved that I once held the same foolish views as Sir Edward Heath.

The difference is that observation of the European and world scene over the intervening period has led me to repent of my folly: Sir Edward remains mired in his.

Yours truly,
BELOFF,
House of Lords.
January 21.

From Mr J. A. Davis

Sir, Lord Beloff's view (letter, January 15) is that there was a positive intention, at the time Britain joined the Common Market, to secure our participation in a federal or "superstate", and that this was due to pessimism in a section of the British elite about our ability to operate as a successful nation state.

The essentially federal nature of the EEC and the aspiration of the original members to press on to ever greater unity had been on public display for over 20 years before we joined, as Sir Edward Heath has made clear. The European Court of Justice had proclaimed the supremacy of Community law two years before we joined. It has taken, so it seems, a further 20 years for us to wake up to what we did.

When one considers what that says about the honesty and competence of the mother of Parliaments and the alertness of what is supposed to be one of the most sophisticated electorates in the world, it rather suggests that that pessimism was totally justified.

I was not deceived and voted to come out in 1975. I would not repeat that mistake today.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. DAVIS,
54 Woodlands Road,
Bookham, Surrey.
January 18.

From Mr Patrick Howard

Sir, Sir Edward Heath dismisses Lord Beloff's fear that "policies dreamed up elsewhere" could ruin the livelihoods of many UK citizens by citing the UK's achievement in having the best employment record in the Union.

I would maintain that this has been achieved only through our opting out of Union policies on the ERM, the social chapter and the minimum wage.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK HOWARD,
37 Ennerdale Road,
Kew, Richmond, Surrey.
January 18.

Vote on bugging

From Mrs Sally Flintoff

Sir, The vote by the Upper House to overturn that part of the Police Bill relating to bugging (report, January 21) illustrates why the House of Lords should remain in being. Its role as a valuable checking device on the Government should not be underestimated.

We all want the police to have sufficient means to detect crime, but not at any price.

Yours faithfully,
SALLY FLINTOFF,
1 Royal Crescent Mews, W11.
January 21.

Rail privatisation 'a costly mistake'

From the General Secretary of the RMT

Sir, It is to be expected that Secretary of State Sir George Young (letter, January 17) would claim railway privatisation is working, but it is ironic that on the day he makes claims about increased investment we learn that for the second time in a month John Swift, the Rail Regulator, has been forced to criticise Railtrack for under-investment in maintenance (report, Business News).

In its half-year accounts Railtrack identified £760 million of backlog work in vital station/property maintenance but had spent just £11 million. It is still spending considerably less on day-to-day track/signalling maintenance than the £800 million a year it claimed was necessary in 1995, just to stand still.

Sir George refers to "investment commitments". These do not amount to actual spending as Railtrack proves. The Secretary of State says that "a billion pounds [will be spent] over 10 years" (ie, £100 million a year) in replacing and refurbishing rolling stock. To put this in perspective, Department of Transport statistics show that over the last decade of public ownership the Conservative Government spent on average £275 million a year on rolling stock. Even if additional investment in new rolling stock is forthcoming it will be far too late to save the UK-based rolling-stock industry.

Support for the privatised railway this financial year is likely to be £1,760 million. By 2000 Opraf, the rail franchiser, forecast last November that support will have fallen to £1,260 million. In the last year of the integrated railway, 1993-94, BR received £1,073 million, including grant from Passenger Transport Executives. Can we afford any more success of this kind?

Despite an increase in grant of 60 per cent there is just no evidence of real improvements in services. Much of the data on timekeeping, for example, is spurious. Yet, there can be little doubt that the old integrated railway, given these additional resources, would have provided substantial, long-term improvements.

Far from being a "modest success" (leading article, January 13) railway privatisation is already proving to be a very costly mistake.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES KNAPP, General Secretary,
National Union of Rail,
Maritime & Transport Workers,
Unity House, Euston Road, NW1.
January 17.

Banking on pay of £1 million a year

From Mr Paul Ashton

Sir, William Rees-Mogg claims (article, January 20) that Nicola Horlick, the £1 million-a-year bank employee, was "almost certainly worth a great deal more to the bank than they were paying her". This is based on his assumption that perhaps 5 per cent of the capital value of the bank, equal to £75 million, might be attributed to Mrs Horlick's "personal contribution".

Such unscientific, if not bogus, calculations about the worth of an individual's contribution to the profitability of an organisation are frequently used to justify enormous salaries and bonuses. They are meaningless because they assume, in my view quite wrongly, that the organisation could not employ someone else who would perform at least as well for, say, half the financial reward.

Over-inflated salaries and bonus rates exist purely because of the self-interest of fellow-executives, who know that by suggesting them they will benefit too. Entrepreneurs who risk all they have deserve high rewards; salaried employees are worth no more than the lowest amount an equally skilled and productive person would accept to do the job.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL ASHTON,
37 Benbow Avenue, Langney Point,
Eastbourne, East Sussex.

From Mr James McFarlane

Sir, Whether William Rees Mogg's article accurately reflects what happens in the City, I cannot say; but it does seem to me that fund managers are in a position to have a one-way bet at their clients' expense.

What they win on the swings in their lucky years, they do not have to pay back on the roundabouts, when fortune (or skill) deserts them. They are fortunate to be paid millions for placing the bets.

Yours very truly,
JAMES McFARLANE,
24 Broad Street,
Ludlow, Shropshire.
January 20.

From Mr E. Guy Abel

Sir, Pennington (Business News, January 21) queries whether Mrs Horlick is really superhuman to raise five children on £1 million. It is hard for us males to judge this fairly but surely the question is whether it is remarkable to earn £1 million whilst raising five children.

Yours faithfully,
E. GUY ABEL,
Chimney Mill, West Stow,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.
January 21.

From Mr P. Best

Sir, Would it be possible for one of your media persons to explain the difference between a "fat cat" and a "superwoman"?

Yours faithfully,
P. BEST,
126 Roe Lane, Southport, Merseyside.
January 18.

Arab / Israel agreement

From Sir Cyril Townsend, MP for Bexleyheath (Conservative)

Sir, While I share your relief that an agreement has been reached between Israel and the Palestinian Authority which should move the peace process forward, I must disagree with your leading article, "Peace in their time" (January 16), in one respect.

The peace process should not be rushed, certainly, but it must be pushed forward as quickly as possible. The situation will not simply stand still while talks proceed; there remains a serious danger of it deteriorating and destroying the peace process.

The Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip feel that they are living under siege because of the continued closure of those areas. Their unemployment is around 50 per cent in many places and living standards are deteriorating.

Such factors, linked to dissatisfaction over the limited character of the concessions made thus far by Israel, mean that the pursuit of a final settlement acceptable to the Palestinian people should be seen as a matter of urgency. This should certainly not preclude dealing seriously with all the outstanding issues in the peace process.

Yours faithfully,
CYRIL TOWNSEND
(Director),
Council for the Advancement of
Arab-British Understanding,
21 Collingham Road, SW5.
January 17.

Public grief

From Mr Ronald Thwaites, QC

Sir, I wholeheartedly agree with Sir Anthony Beaumont-Dark (letter, January 14) that it is time for a return to restraint and decency in the treatment of the families of the victims of crime. It has become routine to see dishevelled and visibly emotional relatives of recently murdered victims and lost children paraded before a posse of journalists and TV cameras by the police in an appeal for witnesses to come forward.

First, that is not the job of the bereaved. Second, it is unlikely that they are thinking clearly enough to be able to make a rational decision about the wisdom of taking part in such spectacles. Third, they cannot contribute anything other than their tragic demeanour to the investigation of the case. Fourth, what price sensitivity to their feelings?

Do the police believe that we as a nation have become so hardened that we have become immune to the daily diet of horrors that take place; or that we cannot imagine the grief of the parents for their dead children, or spouses for their dead partners, without seeing it for ourselves; or that it is now expected that the bereaved practise their grief in public before witnesses are persuaded to come forward? Have we become such a sick and callous society?

Yours faithfully,
RONALD THWAITES,
10 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.

Winning books

From Mr James Willis

Sir, "Britain's favourite books: the top 100" (report, January 20):

33. *Remembrance of Things Past* Marcel Proust.

34. *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory* Roald Dahl.

Would you be prepared to offer a small prize to the reader who can supply a better example of bathos, in any medium or context?

Yours faithfully,
JAMES WILLIS,
Ashwell Farmhouse,
Ilminster, Somerset.
January 21.

Unspeakable offer

From Mrs C. M. Upton

Sir, A catalogue of rare books received at this house today is offering us *The Gollywogg's Fox-hunt* (published 1905). Is this the least politically-correct title currently available?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE M. UPTON,
20 Yew Tree Gardens,
Harrogate, North Yorkshire.
January 17.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Conflict over Chief Rabbi's gesture

From Mr Barry Hyman

Sir, Your editorial, "A brother's hand" (January 18), praising Rabbi Jonathan Sacks's intention to attend the memorial meeting for Rabbi Hugo Gryn on February 20 will sadly make no impression on, and almost certainly be unread by, those frightened people who oppose the arrangement.

To the many thousands of us who have already paid tribute to Rabbi Gryn at his funeral or the subsequent memorial service, the presence of Rabbi Sacks at a secular gathering is a matter of some indifference. It is nonetheless a belated conciliatory gesture, for which he is to be congratulated, particularly when one sees the wrath it engenders against him from the ultra-orthodox Jewish community — from which I exclude the vast majority of modern British observant United Synagogue Jews. They were mostly no less distressed by Rabbi Sacks's absence from Rabbi Gryn's funeral than Reform Jews, as the *Jewish Chronicle*'s letters page showed at the time.

Sadly the Jewish community, now numbering less than 300,000, still contains people whose capacity to revile their co-religionists defies belief. An ultra-orthodox rabbi recently condemned, in a radio interview, a non-orthodox group as "criminals and sinners, creating *mamzerim* (illegitimate children) for ten generations". This is the sort of self-destructive invective which faces Rabbi Sacks each time he makes any sort of gesture towards non-orthodox Jews.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY HYMAN,
4 Priory View,
Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire.
January 18.

From Mr Richard Bacon

Sir, Rabbi Hugo Gryn was a good and wise man who touched many people beyond his own faith. Those who profoundly disagreed with him on theological questions might reflect on what the Chief Rabbi said in his 1990 Reith lectures:

> To have faith in God as creator and ruler of the universe is to do more than to believe that God has spoken to us. It is to believe that God has spoken to others, in a language which we may not understand.

RICHARD BACON,
86 Gloucester Street, SW1.
January 19.

In the steps of Todd

From Mr M. G. de St V. Atkins

Sir, There was, of course, a difference between the late Lord Todd and the Almighty (letters, January 16, 18). It was recorded in a limerick, told me by an American tribologist; he said that it was current in Christ's when he was an undergraduate there, in the early 1960s:

Doesn't it strike you as odd
That a commonplace fellow like Todd
Should spell, if you please,
His name with two Ds,
When one is sufficient for God?

Yours sincerely,
M. G. de St V. ATKINS,
Cross House, Whittington,
Nr Carnforth, Lancashire.

From Mr W. B. H. Lord

Sir, At Cambridge there was a certain amount of rivalry between Todd's chemistry department and the physics department, where the Cavendish Professor was the distinguished solid-state physicist, Sir Nevill Mott.

Todd's somewhat forceful personality gave rise to the jingle:

A. R. Todd
Thinks he's Godd.
N. F. Mott
Says he's nott.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM LORD,
2 Orchard Brae, Edinburgh.
January 18.

Checkout spies

From Mr Joseph Collins

Sir, I received today a voucher, redeemable at Tesco's, for £1 off my next bottle of Three Barrels brandy. It was addressed to me personally "as a Three Barrels drinker".

It was most welcome but — and this is a disturbing thought — how did they know me? The only bottle of this brandy I have ever had came home a week ago in my wife's Tesco shopping — one item on a £10h bill. To Tesco she is Mrs E. Collins. They don't know me from Adam. She might have been a widow or, perish the thought, have been buying brandy for a secret lover.

Confidentiality means little in these plastic card and junk-mail days.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH COLLINS,
22 Cardinal Court, Grand Avenue,
Worthing, West Sussex.
January 15.

Undercover message

From Mr R. W. Dubell

Sir, I would suggest that if Mrs Beryl Wakefield (letter, January 18) wishes all things to remain the same, she votes Conservative and wears her Marks & Spencer briefs back to front.

Yours,
R. W. DUBELL,
3 The Rosary,
Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire.
January 20.

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COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
January 21: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) at the Memorial Service for the Lord Gladwyn (formerly Her Majesty's Ambassador to the French Republic) which was held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, today. The Duke of Kent was represented by Mr Andrew Palmer.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy was represented by Rear-Admiral Sir John Garnier.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 21: The Princess Royal, President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, this evening attended the Corporate Reception "Partnerships Work" at Lloyds TSB Group, Lombard Street, London EC3.

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, later attended a Private Appeal Dinner at Buckingham Palace.

CLARENCE HOUSE
January 21: Dame Frances Campbell-Preston has succeeded the Lady Angela Oswald as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
January 21: The Duke of Kent, President, Edexcel Foundation, this afternoon presented the Student of the Year Awards, at Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2.

The Duchess of Kent, Royal Patron, the Samaritans, this morning received Mrs Jenny Cunnington, the outgoing Chairman, and Mr John Lawrie, the incoming Chairman.

Her Royal Highness, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Logistic Corps, this afternoon received Colonel Michael Lake, Regimental Colonel, on relinquishing the appointment and Colonel Nigel Gilbert on assuming the appointment.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will visit Nottingham Carers Centre, Queens Bridge Road, Nottingham, at 11.25; will open the new Carlton Police divisional headquarters, Cavendish Road, Nottingham, at 12.25; will visit the British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham, at 1.45; and, as Patron of The National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, will give a dinner for corporate heads at Buckingham Palace at 8.00.

The Duke of Kent, as Patron, Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies, will present the Chesney Gold Medal to the Marquess of Anglesey at Whitehall at 12.25.

Dinners

Company of Chartered Accountants
Mr W.S.C. Richards, Master of the Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, assisted by Mr G.H. Kingsmill, Senior Warden, and Mr W.K. Gardener, Junior Warden, presided at the winter livery dinner held last night at Goldsmiths' Hall. Mr N.J. Durlacher, the Senior Warden and Mr G.J. Hearne also spoke. Among others present were:
Viscount Slim, Lord Remnant, Mr Alderman Gavyn Arthur, Group Captain John Constable, Mr Terry Morris, Mr Alistair Black, Mr W S Shand, the Masters and Clerks of the Tallow Chandlers' and Joiners' and Ceilers' Companies and of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators.

Royal Society of Medicine
Sir Christopher Paine, President of the Royal Society of Medicine, accompanied by Lady Paine, received the guests at a reception and dinner held last night at 1 Wimpole Street. Sir Michael Davies was the principal speaker. Among the guests were:
Lord Richardson, the Hon Ann Stafford, Sir Christopher Booth, Sir David Innes Williams, Sir George and Lady Pinker, Sir Donald and Lady Harrison, Lady Davies, Sir Gordon and Lady Robson, Professor Jon Stallworthy and Dr Sally Thompson.

United & Cecil Club
Sir Sydney Chapman, MP, a Vice-Chairman of the United & Cecil Club, presided at a dinner given by the club last night at the House of Commons. Mr Alastair Goodlad, MP, was the principal guest.

John Hurt, the actor, is 57 today

Birthdays today

Viscount Bearstead, 47; Miss Mary Hayley Bell (Lady (John) Mills), playwright, 86; Mr Nigel Benn, boxer, 33; Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson, 72; Lord Cottesloe, 70; Sir John Cotton, diplomat, 88; Sir Charles Davis, former Counsel to the Speaker, 88; Sir Simon Day, farmer, 62; Mr George Foreman, boxer, 49; Judge Ann Goddard, QC, 61; Miss Margaret Hall, head of design, British Museum, 61; Professor Cyril Hogarth, physicist, 73; Lord Hughes, 86.

Mr John Last, arts patron, 57; Baroness Lockwood, 73; Miss Elizabeth Lynne, MP, 49; Mr Richard Osmond, company secretary, Post Office, 50; Sir Alfred Ramsey, former manager, England's World Cup football team, 77; Mrs Claire Rayner, writer and broadcaster, 66; Mrs Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, 57; Sir Michael Spicer, MP, 54; Sir Hilary Talbot, former High Court judge, 85; Lord Wardington, 73; Sir Graham Wilkins, former chairman, Thorn EMI, 73.

Memorial services

Lord Gladwyn

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Baroness Trumpington at a memorial service for Lord Gladwyn held yesterday at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey. The Duke of Kent was represented by Mr Andrew Palmer and Princess Alexandra by Rear-Admiral Sir John Garnier.

Canon Donald Gray, Chaplain to the Speaker, officiated, assisted by the Bishop of Coventry, who led the prayers, and Mme Tatiana Jolly de Rosnay, granddaughter, who read a prayer in French by Jean Racine. The Hon Isabella Thomas, granddaughter, read the lesson and Lord Gladwyn, son, read the description of the Garden of Paradise from *Paradise Lost* by John Milton.

Mr Giorgio Giacomelli, Director-General of the United Nations Office in Vienna, read a message from Mr Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations.

Lord Thomas of Swynnerton and Baron Joel de Rosnay, sons-in-law, paid tribute and Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, OM, gave an address.

The Rev Roger Holloway and Father Jean-Marie Charles Roux were robed and in the Sanctuary.

The Lord Chancellor was present. The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was represented by Sir John Margetson. Sir John Coles, Permanent Under Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service, the French Ambassador and the Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva attended. The Leader of the Liberal Democrats was represented by Sir David Steel, MP. Among others present were:

Lady Thomas of Swynnerton and Baronne de Rosnay (daughters), the Hon Isambard Thomas, Mme Cecilia de Vaucleroy and Mr and Mrs Alexis de Rosnay (grandchildren), Donna Virginia Scarelli, Lord and Lady Campbell of Croy, Captain and Mrs L M Sheepshanks, Mr Andrew Sheepshanks, Mr Christopher Sheepshanks, Jane Lady Noble, Sir David Noble, Mrs John Porter, Mr Charles Noble, Commander and Mrs M G Chichester, Colonel Philip Jebb, Mrs Irene Hunter, Mrs D Stewart, Mr and Mrs James Stewart, Vice-Admiral Sir Alistair and Lady Ewing, Mr R C Wilkin, Lady Serena James, Sir Iain and Lady Noble, Mr John Noble, Miss Anastasia Noble, Mrs Christina Noble, the Hon Mrs How, Mr and Mrs Tim Rock, Mrs Elizabeth Cotton, Viscountess Dungarvan, the Hon Mrs Delap, the Hon Mrs Egerton-Warburton, Lady Glenkinglas.

The Marquess and Marchioness of Anglesey, the Earl of Buchan, the Earl of Cranbrook, Earl and Countess Ferrers, Earl Grey, Earl Jellicoe, FRS, Patricia Countess Jellicoe, the Earl and Countess of Scarbrough, the Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham, Lord and Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox, Viscount Colville of Culross, QC, and Viscountess Colville, Viscount Falkland, Viscount and Viscountess Norwich, Lady Rupert Nevill.

Lord Aberdare, Lord Addington, Lord Aldington, Lord and Lady Armstrong of Ilminster, the Rev Lord Beaumont of Whitley, Lord Beloff, FBA, Lady Berkeley, Lord Blaker, Lady Bonham Carter, Lord Boston of Faversham, QC, Lord and Lady Bridges, Lady Bruce-Gardyne, Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, Lord Carnock, Lady Carrington, Field Marshal Lord and Lady Carver, Lord Chalfont, Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, CH, the Dowager Lady Cobbold, Lord Dacre of Glanton, Baroness David.

Lord and Lady Derwent, Lord Diamond, Lady Eccles of Moulton, Lord and Lady Elton, Lord Ezra, Lord Gainford, Lord Gilmore of Thamesfield, Lady Gore-Booth, Lord Greenhill of Harrow, Lord Hampton, Lord Harris of Greenwich, Lord Hartwell, Lord Holme of Cheltenham, Baroness Hooper, Lord Hooson, QC, Lord Inchyra, Lord Judd, Lord Lawson of Blaby, Lord and Lady Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Mackie of Benshie, Lord MacLehose of Beoch, KT, Lord and Lady Marlesford, Lord McNally, Lord Murton of Lindisfarne.

Lord Prior, Lord Pym, Baroness Rawlings, Lord Redesdale, Lord Richardson, Baroness Robson of Kiddington, Lord Rochester, Lord Rodgers of Quarry Bank, Lord Roll of Ipsden, Lord Shaw of Northstead, Lord Shawcross, QC, Baroness Strange, Lord and Lady Tanlaw, Lord Thomas of Gresford, QC, Lord Thomson of Monifieth, KT, Lady Thorneycroft, Lord Wigoder, QC, and Lady Wigoder, Lord and Lady Williams of Elvel, Baroness Williams of Crosby.

Mr Michael Alison, MP, and Mrs Alison, the Hon Sir Adam Butler, Mr Paul Channon, MP, the Hon Alan Clark, Mr Aubrey Jones, MP, Sir Michael and Lady Palliser, Mr Tim Renton, MP, and Mrs Renton, Sir Christopher and Lady Staughton, Mr and Mrs Jeremy Thorpe, Sir John and Lady Waite, Lady Jane Howard, Lady Arabella Stuart.

The Hon Raymond and Mrs Bonham Carter, the Hon Mrs Chisholm, the Hon Mrs Colman, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Anne Grant, the Hon Mrs P A C Money-Coutts, the Hon Mrs Fionn Morgan, the Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham, the Hon Sir Steven Runciman, CH, FBA, the Hon Sophie Schreiber, the Hon Julia Stonor, Priscilla Lady Bacon, Lady Carew Pole, Sir John and the Hon Lady Lucas-Tooth, Sir Anthony and Lady Meyer, Sir Peter and Lady Petrie, Lady Pickthorn.

Sir Antony Acland, Sir Ronald and Lady Arculus, Sir Isaiah Berlin, OM, and Lady Berlin, Sir Michael and Lady Butler, Sir Alan Campbell, Lady Cazalet, Sir Alcon and Lady Copisarow, Lady Coulson, Sir Douglas and Lady Dodds-Parker, Sir Stephen and Lady Egerton, Sir Richard Faber, Lady Fergusson, Sir Edward Ford, Sir John and Lady Fretwell, Sir William and Lady Harding, Sir Reginald and Lady Hibbert, Sir Russell Johnston, MP, Sir Hugh Jones, Sir John Lambert, Sir Peter and Lady Laurence, Sir John and Lady Leahy, Sir Ian Lloyd, Sir Christopher and Lady Mallaby, Sir Peter Marshall, Sir Guy and Lady Millard, Lady Penn.

Sir Patrick and Lady Reilly, Sir Frank Roberts, Lady Ross, Baron Robert Rothschild, KCMG, and Baroness Rothschild, Sir Reginald and Lady Secondé, Dame Mary Smieton, Sir John Smith, CH, and Lady Smith, Sir James Spooner, Sir Crispin Tickell, Lady Tumim, Sir John Ure, Lady Villiers, Sir Robert Wade-Gery, Sir Peter and Lady Wakefield, Sir Paul and Lady Wright, Mr Frank and Lady Katharine Giles, Mr Bernard and Lady Mirabel Kelly, Mr Mark and Lady Harriot Tennant, Mr and the Hon Mrs Christopher Blount.

Mr Donald Anderson, MP, Mrs E Bennett, Mr Alexander Borg Olivier, Captain and Mrs M K Cavenagh-Mainwaring, Brigadier Alan Cowan, Baroness Liliane de Rothschild, Mr and Mrs Peter Durlacher, Judge and Mrs Marcus Edwards, Ms Serena Fass, Mr Andrew Faulds, MP, Professor M R D Foot, Mr and Mrs Simon Fraser, Mrs Elizabeth Gibbs, Mrs Walter Goetz, Mrs Victor Gordon, Mrs K M W Gordon, Mr W Percy Grieve, QC, Mrs Marit Guinness Aschan, Mrs Mervyn Heald, Mr Robert Jackson, MP, Mrs Timothy Jones, Mr and Mrs Laurence Kelly.

Mr and Mrs Roger Longrigg, Mr Roger Lubbock, Mrs Terence Maxwell, Mr and Mrs R H Murray-Philipson, MP, Mr Nigel Nicolson, Mr George Nissen, Mrs Edward Norman-Butler, Mrs S Norris, Mrs Eduardo Propper de Callejon, Mr Tim Rathbone, MP, and Mrs Rathbone, Mr Kenneth Rose, Mr and Mrs Anthony Sampson, Mr J W R Shakespeare, Mr John Smoker, Mr John Stevenson, Mr Andrew Stewart Roberts, Mr P D Trevor-Roper, Mr Ben Whitaker, Mr Philip Ziegler.

Mr Michael Davies (Clerk of the Parliaments), Mr Anthony Smith (President, Magdalen College, Oxford), Mr M H S Muller (British branch, French Engineering Institution), Mr Trevor Bottomley (Council for Education in the Commonwealth), Mr Andrew Duff (Federal Trust for Education and Research), Mr J J Fallon (Gallipoli Association), Mr D B Griffiths (British group, Liberal International), Mr Martin Kenyon (UK Council for Overseas Student Affairs), Mr Alan Lee Williams and Mr Peter Robinson (Trades Union Committee for Euro and Transatlantic Understanding) with many other friends and former colleagues.

Mr Edward Ram

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester attended a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Edward David Abel Ram, solicitor and a Director of Daily Mail and General Trust, held yesterday at St Bride's, Fleet Street.

Canon John Oates officiated and the Rev Patrick Phelan and the Rev Francis Otto led the prayers.

Mr Harry Ram, son, and Viscount Montgomery of Alamein read the lessons. Viscount Ashbrook gave an address. Among others present were:

Mrs Ram (widow), Captain and Mrs T G A Ram and Mr and Mrs John Ram (brothers and sisters-in-law), Mrs St John Brook Johnson (sister), Mr William Ram, Miss Camilla Ram, Dr and Mrs Nicholas Brown, Mr and Mrs Peter Ram, Mr Alan Ram, Mr and Mrs Simon Ram, Mr and Mrs Juvand Djordjevic, Miss Caroline Brook Johnson, Mr and Mrs Toby Falconer, Mr Andrew Mollison.

Mr Brian Stevens (senior partner, Withers) with Mr Charles Doughty, Mr Philip Durrance, Mr Tony Thompson, Mr Murray Hallam, Mr Andrew Gerry, Mr Jonathan Eastwood, Mr David Bowyer, Mr Peter Duffield and other past and present partners and past and present members of staff.

Mr Charles Sinclair (chief executive, Daily Mail and General Trust, also representing the chairman), the Hon Jonathan Harmsworth (managing director, The Courier Printing & Publishing Company), Sir David English (chairman, Associated Newspapers), Mr Peter Williams (finance director, Daily Mail and General Trust) and Mr Vyvyan Harmsworth (director of corporate affairs, Associated Newspapers Holdings).

The Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe, the Marquess of Abergavenny, KG, and the Marchioness of Abergavenny, Lady Mark Fitzalan Howard, Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Viscountess Ashbrook, Lord Kimball, Lord Keith of Castleacre, Victoria Lady Palmer, Lord Hindlip, the Dowager Lady Hindlip, Lord and Lady Teviot, Lady Soames, Lord Chedwode, Lord and Lady Farnham, Lord and Lady Camoys.

The Hon Mrs Peter Brooke, Sir Richard and Lady Luce, Lady Jane Wellesley, Lady Rose Clowes, the Hon Alan and Mrs Gordon-Walker, the Hon Richard Strutt, the Hon John Allsopp, the Hon Jeremy Soames, the Hon Lady Bowater, the Hon Charles Cecil, the Hon Mrs Lane Fox, Major the Hon P C and Mrs Baillie, the Hon Esmond Harmsworth, the Hon Christopher and Mrs Chetwode.

Caroline Lady Nuttall, Sir Simeon Bull, Sir Ronald and Lady Lindsay of Dowhill, Sir John and Lady Montgomery Cuninghame, Sir Edward Pickering (Master of the Guild of St Bride), Sir Arthur and Lady Collins, Sir Edward Cazalet, Dame Mona Mitchell, General Sir Charles and Lady Harington, Sir Michael Caine and Miss Emma Nicholson, MP, Lieutenant-General Sir James and the Hon Lady Wilson, Sir John Wordie, Sir Matthew Farrer, Sir William Goodhart, QC, and Lady Goodhart, Sir Ronald Grierson.

Mr Francis Sitwell, Mr John Nutting, QC, Mr I L Mackeson-Sandbach, Mrs Brian Stevens, Mrs Vyvyan Harmsworth, Mr and Mrs David Treherne Pollock, Colonel and Mrs Richard Abel-Smith, Mr and Mrs Paul de Zulueta, Mr Alan Williams, Miss Emma Williams, Mrs Fred Stanley, Mr Richard Chetwode, Mr Christopher Wilson, Mr and Mrs John Wilson, Mrs Francis Otto, Mr Mark Burnett, Miss Helen Dorrien Smith, Mr and Mrs Edward Trafford, Mr Michael Trafford, Mr and Mrs Jonathan Holborow, Miss Virginia Litchfield, Mr Andrew-Christie Miller, Mr and Mrs Michael Parker, Mrs Michael Johns, Dr and Mrs Nicholas Brown, Mr Simon Broke, Mr N Garnett, Mr Harry Garnett, Mr Peter Stanley, Mr Sam Guy, Mr James Hambro, Mr and Mrs Paul Wansbrough, Major H Waterhouse, Mr and Mrs James Gladstone, Mr Mark Granger, Mrs Rosemary Black, Colonel and Mrs Edward York, Mrs Sally Greenwell, Mr Michael Dickson, Ms Arabella Stuart-Smith, Mr Geoffrey van Cutsem, Captain and Mrs Charles Wynne Finch, Mrs C Baker-Cresswell, Mr J Scott, Mrs Rowena Cotton.

Miss Victoria Cotton, Miss M Schindler, Mr and Mrs George Lambton, Mrs T Grant-Peterkin, Mr A Rollo, Mr David Dixon, Mr and Mrs George Doughty, Mr John Roome, Mr and Mrs Charles Petre, Mr John Floyd, Mr John Peake, Mr Nicholas Bowater, Mr C J Leigh, Mr Hugh Scrutton, Mr Stewart Jones, QC, and Mrs Jones, Mr William Farrer, Mr Henry Boyd-Carpenter, Mr George Pope, Mrs Rita Berry, Mr Rory Macpherson, Mr Roger Wellesley-Smith, Mr Tom Lewis, Mr Henry Hoare.

Mr Robin Bonham-Carter, Mr Richard Hoare, Mr Simon Berry, Mr James Berry, Mr Gerald Ward, Mrs P Lowndes, Mr James Richardson, Mr John Williams, Mrs E Stanley, Mr John Nutting, QC, the Rev Ronald and Mrs Casebow, Miss Jane Wykeham-Musgrave, Mr Michael Gourlet, Mr Ben Prest, Mr Jonathan Godwin-Austen, Mr David Cazalet, the Rev His Honour Christopher and Mrs Lea, Mrs Sylvia Leth, Major Nicholas Barne, Mr and Mrs Simon Kenyon Slaney, Mr Peter Hadley, Mrs P Turner.

Mr and Mrs S Creswell, Miss Vera Conyers, Mr Michael Johns, Mr and Mrs A Mildmay-White, Mr and Mrs Oliver Steel, Mr Michael Chetwode, Mr Peter Wilson, Miss Catherine Coyle, Mr Ian Cameron, Mrs Watcyn Lewis, Mr and Mrs S Kerrigan, Mr and Mrs Michael Bowater, Mr Mark Litchfield, Mrs Jennifer Snyder, Mr Andrew Regan, Mrs Jennifer Collins, Mr Marc Ohrstrom, Mr Barnaby Ohrstrom, Mr and Mrs Simon Scrope, Mr and Mrs S J Turner, Mrs Elizabeth Lewthwaite, Miss Camilla Geddes, Mr and Mrs David Hunt, Mr and Mrs Robin Broadley, Mr Peter Wood.

Mr Geoffrey Holborow, Mrs David Milinaric, Mrs I Moreton, Dr David Hay, Mr and Mrs C Baker-Cresswell, Colonel and Mrs Michel Brooke, Mr Marcus Cotton, Mr R B K Dyott, Mrs J Walton, Mrs Anthony Duff, Mr and Mrs Benedict Nightingale, Professor P L Mollison, Mr J Cotton, Mr and Mrs Barrie Iliffe, Mr Mark Farrer, Dr J F Avery Jones, Mr and Mrs B Waktare, Mr and Mrs Simon Gray, Mr Harry Fitzalan Howard, Mr John Broadley, Mr and Mrs Tom Lewis, Mr Nicolas Paravacini, Mr Nicholas Eeley, Ms Frances Lowndes, Mrs H Ferranti, Mr Simon Greenwell, Mr Paul Bergne, Mr Paul Irby, Mrs C Flower.

Mr Paul E Hauser (Bryan Cave), Mr Christopher H Rawlings (140 Trustee Company), Mr Joe Pillman (Cole and Cole), Mr Nicholas R Gold (Baring Brothers International), Mr Clive A H Nicholson (Saffery Champness), Mr William Steel (Kleinwort Benson) and Mrs Steel, Mr Anthony Cane (Strutt and Parker), Mr William Norris (Allen & Overy), Miss E Mellor (Nicholson Graham and Jones), Mr Simon Block (Justinians), Mr David Bishop (Hunters), Mr Patrick Ramsay (Knight Frank), Mr Richard Underwood (Caine and Nicholson).

Mr Nicholas Assheton (Coutts & Co) with Mr Anthony Duffett, Mr John Drewitt (Frere Cholmeley Bischoff), Mr John Pelham (Andersons), Mr Peter Trumper (Cluttons), Commander A Lorimer and Mr Malcolm Farrer-Brown (Solicitors' Benevolent Association), Mr David Stew (Crichleys), Mr John Kennedy (Hunters), Mr E Wood (Binder Hamlyn), Mr Michael Wiggin (Lane Fox), Mr K Crabb (Ermitage), with many other friends and former colleagues.

Dame Catherine Hall

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Dame Catherine Mary Hall, former General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, was held yesterday in the Chapel of the Order of the British Empire, St Paul's Cathedral.

The Dean of St Paul's, the Very Rev Dr John Moses officiated, assisted by the Abbot of Buckfast and the Rev Dora Frost, Honorary Chaplain of the Royal College of Nursing, who led the prayers. Dr Betty Kershaw, president of the college, read the college prayer.

Lord Walton of Detchant, Professor Margaret Green, vice-president of the college, and Miss Mary Uprichard, President of the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, read the lessons.

Ms Christine Hancock, general secretary of the college, and Dame Sheila Quinn paid tribute.

Chief Officers and members of the Council of the Royal College of Nursing, Chief Nursing Officers from the Departments of Health for England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, Matrons-in-Chief of HM Forces, representatives of the General Medical Council, UKCC and many other friends were present.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.J.K. Sheldon
and Miss S.J. Lowry
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, eldest son of Sir Gervase and Lady Sheldon, of Churt, Surrey, and Susie, eldest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Michael Lowry and the late Mrs Rua Lowry, of Donhead St Mary, Wiltshire.

Mr M.J. Barretto
and Miss T. Randall
The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of Dr and Mrs John Barretto, of London W8, and Tracy, daughter of Mr John Randall, of Auckland, and Mrs Janet Randall, of Gisborne, New Zealand.

Mr D. Peskin
and Miss R. Barretto
The engagement is announced between Dominic, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Bruce Peskin, of Kingwood Place, Henley-on-Thames, and Roxane, daughter of Dr and Mrs John Barretto, of London W8.

Mr P.R.G. Cramsie
and Miss P.C. Fergusson
The engagement is announced between Paddy, younger son of Mr and Mrs James Cramsie, of Lambourn, Berkshire, and Petra, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Adam Fergusson, of London.

Mr S.M.K. Goodman
and Miss E.J. Seaman-Hill
The engagement is announced between Simon Michael Keith, son of Mr and Mrs Keith Goodman, of Hampstead, London, and Emma Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Hill, of Pirton, Hertfordshire.

Mr S.N.A. Leefe
and Miss J.F. Vaughan
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Neville Leefe, of Coolham, Sussex, and Joy, younger daughter of the late Mr Roger Vaughan and of Mrs Joan Vaughan, of Johannesburg.

Mr H.M. Dunlop
and Miss P.J. Strathon
The engagement is announced between Hamish, son of the late Mr Michael Dunlop and of Mrs Judy Dunlop, of Little London, East Sussex, and Penelope, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Strathon, of Butlers Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R.D. Murray Brown
and Miss R.M. Acworth
The engagement is announced between Robin, only son of Colonel and Mrs David Murray Brown, of Crowborough, East Sussex, and Rachel, only daughter of the Venerable and Mrs Richard Acworth, of Wells, Somerset.

Mr A. Rowlands
and Miss A. Schoch
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Rowlands, of Soranks Manor, Fairseat, Kent, and Annouchka, elder daughter of Mr Thomas Schoch, of Kensington, London, and Mrs Sandra Schoch, of Scotches Farm, Hassocks, Sussex.

Mr N.W.T. Woodhouse
and Miss E.R. Day
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Mr and Mrs Richard Woodhouse, of Widmerpool, Nottinghamshire, and Rebecca, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Owen Day, of Redbourne, Lincolnshire.

Marriage

Mr M. Cloud
and Miss S. Wiseman
The marriage took place at Chelsea Register Office, on Saturday, January 18, of Mr Matthew Cloud, younger son of Mr Stanley Cloud and Mrs Nancy Fuller, of Washington DC, to Miss Sophie Wiseman, daughter of Dr Alan Wiseman, of Fryerning, Essex, and Eve Bergman, of Knightsbridge, London.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Francis Bacon, Viscount St Albans, Lord Chancellor 1618-21, London, 1561; André-Marie Ampère, physicist, Lyons, 1775; George Gordon Byron, 6th Baron Byron, poet, London, 1788; August Strindberg, dramatist, Stockholm, 1849; D.W. Griffith, film director, Floydsfork, Kentucky, 1875; U Thant, Secretary-General of the UN 1961-71, Pantanaw, Burma, 1909.

DEATHS: William Paterson, financier and founder of the Bank of England, London, 1719; Giambattista Vico, philosopher, Naples, 1744; Charles Kean, actor-manager, London, 1868; Sir Joseph Whitworth, industrialist and engineer, Monte Carlo, 1887; Carlo Pellegrini, the cartoonist (Ape), London, 1889; Queen Victoria, reigned 1837-1901, Osborne House, Isle of Wight, 1901; James Bryce, 1st Viscount Bryce, historian and diplomat, Sidmouth, Devon, 1922; Walter Sickert, painter, Bath, 1942; Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th American President 1963-69, San Antonio, Texas, 1973; Herbert Sutcliffe, cricketer, 1978.

"Bloody Sunday" in St Petersburg, when troops fired on workers, 1905.

The Allied landings began in Anzio, Italy, 1944.

The UK, Irish Republic and Denmark joined the Common Market, 1972.

Lecture

Cardiff Business Club
The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, and the Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan, Captain N. Lloyd Edwards, were present at the Second Annual Sir Cennydd Traherne Memorial Lecture delivered by Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, at the National Museum and Galleries of Wales, on Monday night. Sir Tasker Watkins also spoke. Mr Brian K. Thomas, Chairman, Cardiff Business Club, presided.

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God is our refuge and our stronghold, a timely help in trouble; so we are not afraid though the earth shakes and the mountains move in the midst of the sea. Psalm 46 : 1,2

BIRTHS

BEVAN-THOMAS - On January 17th at The Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Rachel (née Ryeland) and Tim, a son, Guy William.

BROADBENT - On 16th January 1997, in New York, to Indoo (née Sahni) and Peregrine, a daughter, Sophie India Sahni, a sister for Anna.

CARSON - On January 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Kate (née Naylor) and Richard, a son, Alexander Thomas, a brother for Olivia and Charlotte.

COLLEY - On January 16th, to Charlotte (née Beevers) and Charles, a son, Harry Charles Bennett.

DUDDRIDGE - On January 11th at The Portland Hospital, to Cherie and Ian, a beautiful first born son, Andrew Xavier.

HAIDAR - On January 15th at The Portland Hospital, to Drs. Haidar and Affara, a daughter, Zahra, a sister for Mona.

KIDSON - On 21st January, to Jacqueline and Robert, a daughter, Lucinda Amy, a sister for Nicholas and Alexandra.

LYCETT - On January 15th 1997, to Celina (née Browne) and Anthony, a son, Nicholas William Piers, a brother for James.

MARSHALL - On January 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Emma (née Bigland) and Andrew, a daughter, Lydia Mary. A sister for Hannah.

McFARLANE - On 15th January 1997, to Alisdair and Elizabeth, a daughter, Lucie Caroline.

PLUMBLY BROUGHTON - On 19th January 1997 at Pembury Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, to Sarah and Graham, a son, James Harvey.

PRATT - On 12th January 1997, to Karen (née Ferozo) and Ward, a daughter, Helena Laura, a sister for Isabelle and Sebastian.

RILEY - On January 15th at Queen Charlotte's, to Helena (née Crill) and Patrick, twin sons.

SAHNI - See Broadbent.

STEWART - On January 12th at The Portland Hospital, to Paul and Victoria, a son, Lucas Steele weighing 8lbs 12oz, a brother for Dylan.

TAYLOR - On 18th December 1996, to Julia (née Charles) and James, a beautiful daughter, Imogen Katherine Mara.

TUDHOPE - On 20th January 1997 at St Mary's, Paddington, to Mia and Bill, a lovely daughter, Flora Georgina Lamb.

WHEELER - On 21st January 1997 in Northern Virginia, USA, to Matthew and Sue (née Madge), formerly of Folham, a daughter, Grace Virginia.

DEATHS

ANSON - Harriet Louise, died suddenly on January 17th 1997. Service at St Mary's Church, Batsford, on Monday January 27th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only to Allen & Son, High Street, Moreton-in-Marsh.

ASHEKIAN - The Reverend Arshene died in Beirut peacefully after a short illness on Saturday 18th January 1997 aged 93 years. Born in Zeitun, he was greatly loved by his family, many friends and congregation. Memorial Service on 2nd March. Enquiries to Keith Howell-Jones on (0181) 398-4080.

BERRY - Margaret Jane Grant on 18th January, suddenly as the result of a stroke, devoted wife of Harry and loving mother of David and Lynda. Funeral Service at Bath Abbey, 12 noon on Thursday 23rd January. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Parkinson's Disease Society c/o Co-operative Funeral Services Ltd, Pulteney Road, Bath, Somerset BA2 4HP.

BILLINGE - On January 17th, peacefully George Frederick, aged 88 years. Beloved husband of Pat. Enquiries to B.D. Tribe Ltd. (01903) 249913.

BOSWORTH - Sybil Marian, peacefully on 20th January in her 84th year (formerly of Cirencester) at Molesey Hospital. Adored wife of Pat, beloved mother of Patrick, dearest mother-in-law of Geraldine and loving granny of Matthew, Timothy, Claire and Roseanna. Funeral service Tuesday 4th February at 12.45 pm at St Mary the Virgin, East Molesey. Flowers to F.W. Paine, 71 Walton Road, East Molesey, Surrey, tel: (0181) 979-5343.

BURTON - Christina. Passed away 14th January 1997 aged 66 years. Funeral Service Wednesday 29th January Holy Family Church, Addlestone, 10.15 am, followed by burial at Weybridge Cemetery.

CHRYSTAL - Jessie, late of Crowborough, peacefully in a nursing home in Tunbridge Wells on 11th January, aged 93. Service at 12 noon on 29th January at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. Tributes to Bysouth, Crowborough.

CULVERHOUSE - On January 17th. Peacefully. Raymond Emerson Culverhouse. Funeral Service private, no flowers by request, but donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, c/o J.H. Kenyon Funeral Directors, 49 Marloes Road, Kensington W8 6LA tel: (0171) 937-0757. Memorial Service to be held at St Michaels Church, Chester Square SW1 on Tuesday March 11th at 11 am.

GOODE - John Basil, OBE, Freeman of the City of London, late of the Barbican, City of London, passed away peacefully at Alveston Leys Nursing Home, Stratford-upon-Avon, on January 19th. Husband of the late Eleanor (Nell) and father of Linnet. Enquiries to A.E. Bennett & Sons Funeral Directors, tel: (01789) 267035.

DAVID - Dr. William Anker Lewis, D.Phil, M.A., suddenly at home in Cambridge on January 18th, 1997, aged 82. Much loved by his family and friends. Research Entomologist first at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, then the Agricultural Research Council Unit of Insect Physiology, Cambridge and finally the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute, Littlehampton. Funeral Service at St Mark's Church, Newnham, Cambridge at 11.30 am, on 3rd February 1997. No flowers but donations, if desired, to Age Concern or Amnesty International.

GRAHAM - On 18th January 1997 David Venton died peacefully at home, aged 62 years. Beloved husband and devoted father and grandfather. The funeral service takes place at St Mary's Church, Slaugham on Monday 27th January at 2pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please but donations for the Intensive Home Nursing Service may be sent c/o Freeman Brothers, 9 North Parade, Horsham, West Sussex.

GRÄFF - Paul, President and Chairman of the Klosterfrau Group, passed away on January 14th. With deep respect we take our leave of a man who supremely and with exceptional success directed the fortunes of the Klosterfrau Group for nearly 45 years. With an entrepreneurial instinct, heart, initiative, a high degree of personal commitment and, not least of all, a lucky touch, he guided the companies entrusted to him to international success. Apart from his family all his energies and loving care were for his enterprise and its employees. A great person, a gifted businessman and a reliable, fatherly friend has gone from us. His example will ensure we continue his life's work. Memorial service in Cologne on 22nd January.

GREEN - Mary (Mary Bosman) of St Georges Retreat, Burgess Hill, died on Sunday January 19th, 1997, aged 82 years. Funeral Service on Friday January 24th at 10.30am in the Church of Our Lady and English Martyrs, Hills Road, Cambridge, followed by Interment at St Giles Cemetery, Huntingdon Road. Family flowers only, but if desired, donations made payable to CAFOD or The Woodland Trust, may be sent to Cambridge Funeral Services, 617 Newmarket Road, Cambridge, tel: (01223) 415255.

GRIGGS - Humphrey Robertson, on 18th January aged 89 at Cheltenham General Hospital, after a short illness, late of Montpellier Spa Road, Cheltenham. Loved and missed by his friends. Funeral at 9.30 am on Monday 27th January at Cheltenham Crematorium. Donations if desired to the RSPB c/o Davis Gregory Solicitors, 25 Rodney Road, Cheltenham, GL50 1HX.

HARRISON - Hugh Devereux, Lt. Col. Indian Army, in his 89th year on 20th January 1997, beloved husband of Pam, much loved father and grandfather. Family service by request.

HELLINGS - David Frederick died peacefully after a short illness on January 19th, adored husband of Joan and much loved father of Clare and Peter. Funeral at the Church of the Ascension, Burghclere, on Saturday January 25th at noon. Family flowers only please to Howe & Son, Bear Hill, Kingsclere, Newbury.

HOLDSWORTH HUNT - Sarah Mary peacefully on January 19th after a short illness. Funeral Service private Bembridge, Isle of Wight, 27th January. Flowers, Weaver Bros., Isle of Wight, tel: (01983) 872598.

JONES - Dr. Harold Whitmore peacefully on 10th January at Queenscourt Residential Home, Chester. Formerly Reader in the history of science at Bradford University. Beloved husband of the late Eveline Jones and loving father of Stephen and Robert. Funeral Friday 24th January, service at All Saints Church, Hoole, Chester at 11am. Enquiries to Dutton & Hallmark, 80 Faulkner Street, Hoole, Chester, tel: (01244) 310966.

KELLS - Dr. Gordon Henry George Kells MB BS Junior died suddenly on 30th December 1996. Funeral Service took place in Galway, Ireland. Memorial Service will take place at the Brompton Oratory, Knightsbridge, at 11 am 8th February 1997. Sadly missed by family and friends.

KEMSLEY - Penelope, peacefully on January 18th. Much loved aunt of Julia and Clare. Funeral at Fryerning on Tuesday January 28th at 3 pm. Enquiries to B.F. Mullery & Son, (01708) 220330.

MAHADDIE - Group Captain Hamish Mahaddie on January 17th, 1997 in Chichester. Funeral service Chichester Crematorium, Friday, 24th January at 5 pm. No flowers please but donations to RAF Benevolent Fund.

MANSFIELD COOPER - On 17th January 1997, passed peacefully away in Hinchingbrooke Hospital Huntingdon, Lady Mabel, aged 93 years, wife of the late Sir William Mansfield Cooper. The funeral service will take place at Cambridge Crematorium, the New West Chapel on Thursday 30th January at 1.30 pm. Donations for The Macmillan Hinchingbrooke Cancer Care Appeal may be sent c/o William Peacock & Sons, Orchard Lane, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE18 6QU.

MASON - Ronald Charles Frederick, on 16th January 1997 in hospital. Funeral Service at All Souls Church, Langham Place, W1, Tuesday 28th January at 11 am. Family flowers only please, donations to the Actors Benevolent Fund. Enquiries to J.H. Kenyon Ltd. (0171) 937-0757.

MELHUISH - Douglas Richard, suddenly at home, on 15th January, aged 87. Much loved father of Gordon and grandfather of Daniel and the late Nicola, husband of the late Mary (Molly). Funeral, Wednesday January 29th, 1.30 pm at Robin Hood Crematorium, Birmingham.

METSON - Una Irene peacefully on 16th January aged 88 years after a series of illnesses, wife of the late Gilbert H. Metson, beloved mother of Gillian and Andria and dear grandmother of William and James. Funeral 29th January 3 pm at Garston Crematorium, Watford. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Worldwide Fund for Nature c/o Phillips Funeral Directors, tel: (01727) 851006.

MILLIGAN - Keith Jardine, dearest husband of Diana and much loved father of Ann and Tony, peacefully in hospital, following extensive surgery, on 18th January 1997, aged 81. Funeral at St Bartholomew's Church, Tardebigge, Bromsgrove, at 2.15 pm on Friday January 24th. Family flowers only. Donations for St Bartholomew's Church may be sent to James Giles Funeral Directors, 24 Stourbridge Road, Bromsgrove, B61 0AE.

MORRIS - Dom Augustine Morris, O.S.B., born 1905, died 20th January 1997. Monk of Pershore 1923-26, Nashdom Abbey 1926-87 and Elmore Abbey 1987-97. Abbot of Nashdom 1948-74. Deacon 1936 and priest 1937. Funeral Mass at Elmore Abbey, 11 am Tuesday 28th January 1997. May he rest in Peace and rise in Glory. Content to be God's friend.

MURCOTT - Stephen Snow. 13th January, aged 96. Madras Pioneers, 1st Punjab Reg. R.I.A.S.C., Lt. Col. Father and grandfather and beloved husband of Betsy. Funeral at Neenton, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, 11.30 am, Saturday 25th January. FD Perry & Phillips, Bridgnorth.

NATER - Peacefully on January 17th 1997 Carl Nater of Guardamunt, St Moritz, aged 88 years, after a full and happy life, sadly missed by family and friends. A service will be held at the Reformed Church in St Moritz Dorf on Tuesday January 28th at 1pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Marie Curie Cancer Care Centre, Pondwood Close, Moulton Park, Northampton NN3 1BR.

ORDISH - Christopher John, 45 years, peacefully at home on 19th January 1997 following a courageous 10 month fight against cancer. Beloved husband of Tricia, adored father of Emily, Katie, Thomas and Alice, much loved son of Pamela and Gar, and truly respected brother of Nigel, Helen, John and Liz. Private family funeral at Woking Crematorium on 30th January at 2 pm. Thanksgiving Service to be notified. Flowers and/or donations to The Brain Tumour Foundation and/or Marie Curie Cancer Care. Funeral arrangements by P. Harrison and Son, Egham, (01784) 432163.

PEAKE - Gordon Oliver, died peacefully on January 18th 1997, after a short illness. Darling husband of Sheila and much loved and loving father of Tony and Michael and grandpa. Funeral Service will be held at 12.45 pm on Friday January 24th at Kenmore Church. Thereafter to Perth Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations to Kenmore Church, if wished.

PREVOST-SMITH - Susan Janet, died peacefully on January 19th at Ashford Hospital. Much loved mother of Edward.

REED - Winifred Enid Fardon (Wyn) of Goldhanger peacefully on January 17th. Much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Chelmsford Crematorium on Monday 3rd February at 1.15 pm. All enquiries to A.G. Smith & Co, 7 Spital Road, Maldon, Essex.

RODGERS - Sir Tobias, Bart., died 19th January 1997 in his 57th year at home in London. The funeral will be held at Church of St John the Evangelist, Groombridge, Kent, at 12 noon on Friday 24th January.

SELL - On 18th January 1997, Olive M Sell of Rookery Nook, Ivinghoe, Aston, peacefully after a short illness, much loved mother of John, Mary and Peter. Private funeral at Ivinghoe Parish Church on 31st January 1997. Flowers to S.A. Bates, 115 West Street, Dunstable or donations to Stoke Mandeville Hospital or Oxfam.

SHADDOCK - On 19th January, William Torrie aged 93, beloved husband of Sylvia and father of Rosalind, Andrew and Crispin. Funeral Service at St Anne's, Kew Green, on Wednesday 29th January at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only.

SHEPPARD - Michael Anthony, suddenly January 2nd 1997 aged 55 in Nairobi, Kenya, where he had settled. Educated at Manchester G.S. and Worcester College, Oxford. Taught at Beverley G.S. Will be sadly missed by his daughter Marianne, former wife Michela, family and friends.

SHERWELL - Brenda Langley on 20th January peacefully in Staffordshire. Widow of Ben, much loved mother of Anthea, Lucinda and Jonathan and devoted mother-in-law and grandmother of 14. Cremation private. Thanksgiving Service at Knockholt to be announced later.

SIMS - On 17th January 1997 in hospital Norman Herbert Sims of Kensington. Younger son of the late Mr and Mrs H. St. A Sims of Salisbury and dearly loved brother of Dorothy, Margaret, Joan and the late Bill.

STACEY - Nicholas Anthony Howard died unexpectedly on 19th January 1997. Committal at Golders Green Crematorium on Friday 24th January 1997 at 3.30 pm. Sorely missed by his wife and friends. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, to Transylvania Direct, 24 Sheen Park, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UW.

STEPHENS - Llewelyn Tudor of Shrewton, previously of London. Passed peacefully away on January 20th 1997, aged 88 years. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Friday January 31st at 11 am. Memorial Service to be announced at a later date. No flowers, donations to Orchard House, The Old Manor Hospital, c/o I.N. Newman Ltd, Griffin House, 55, Winchester Street, Salisbury, SP1 1HL.

TORNOW - Peacefully on 17th January 1997. Dmitri Tornow, beloved husband of Dorothy Tornow, much loved father of Stephen and Sally and loving grandfather of Michael and Katharine. Funeral Service at St Ninians Episcopalian Church, Albert Drive, Glasgow, on Friday 24th January at 1 pm. Thereafter private committal. No flowers please.

TOWNSEND - Maurice Stratton. Peacefully at home after a short illness on 16th January in his 90th year. Much loved husband to Nora, father to David, Linda and Paul, grandfather and great-grandfather. Formerly of Townsends Boat Builders of Bourne End. Founder of Bristow & Townsend of High Wycombe and Townsends Furnishers Bourne End, Bucks. Family cremation at The Chilterns Crematorium Amersham and followed by a Memorial Service at St John the Baptist Church, Little Missenden at 2.15 pm on Wednesday 29th January. Family flowers only, donations if desired to The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, c/o G. Smith (Wooburn) Ltd. Funeral Directors Wooburn Green Bucks. HP10 0EE 01628 523566.

WAY - Molly (Dorothy Mary) of The Bookshop, Emsworth, died peacefully aged 84 on 20th January. Funeral to be held at Warblington Church on 29th January at 1.45 pm.

WHITEHEAD - Peacefully on 18th January 1997 Faithlian, beloved wife of the late Dr. Brian Whitehead, loved mother and grandmother. Funeral 2.30pm Thursday 30th January at Downton Roman Catholic Church. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to the National Osteoporosis Society c/o I.N. Newman Ltd, Funeral Director, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 1HL.

WOOLLAM - On 19th January 1997 in Worthing, Margaret Leonora, wife of the late David Woollam, adored mother of Christopher, Leonora, Katharine and Victoria and grandmother to Hannah, Richard, Georgina, Duncan, Leonora and Elizabeth. Funeral Service at Worthing Crematorium, Findon, on Friday 31st January at 3 pm. Family flowers only please but if desired donations may be made payable to the I.T.U. unit, Worthing Hospital, c/o F.A. Holland & Son, 10 Station Parade, Tarring Road, Worthing, tel: (01903) 248900.

WYNDHAM - On 18th January 1997 Stella Margaret peacefully after a long illness, aged 77 years. Funeral Service at the Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Luxborough, on Monday 27th January at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to NSPCC c/o Murrell and Dewar, Irnham Road, Minehead, Somerset.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

GREY OF CODNOR - A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Mary's Church, Rostherne, at 3 pm on Monday 10th March 1997. The 11.40 am train from Euston will be met at Warrington at 14.01. If you wish to use this service, please ring 01925 752303. Donations, if desired, to Rostherne PCC, St Mary's Church, Rostherne, Knutsford, Cheshire.

POLIAKOFF - Alexander OBE. A Memorial Gathering for Alex who died on 26th July 1996 will be held at the Savile Club, London, on Tuesday 18th March, 6 to 8.30 pm. Entrance by invitation, available from tel: (0115) 951 3485 or fax: (0115) 961 3563.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

WATT - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Glen Louis Watt will be held at Southwark Cathedral, London SE1 on Saturday, January 25th at 12 noon. All friends and colleagues welcome.

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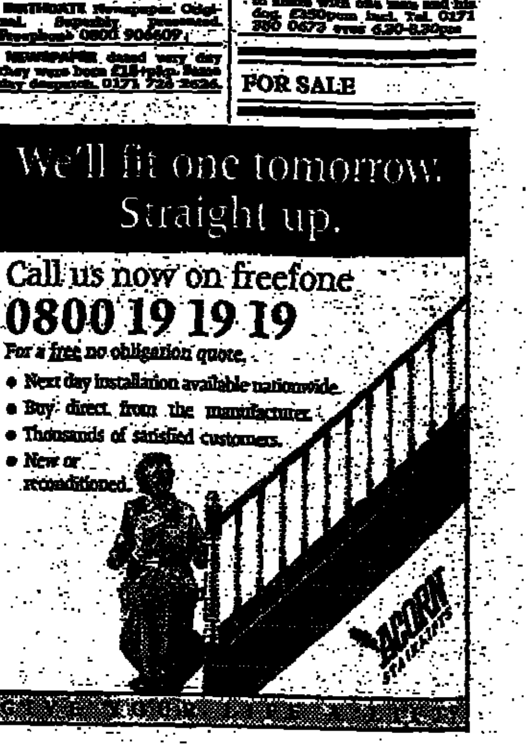
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OBITUARIES

DENNIS MAIN WILSON

Dennis Main Wilson, radio and television light entertainment producer, died on January 20 aged 72. He was born on May 1, 1924.

As the producer of such landmark programmes as *The Goon Show*, *Hancock's Half Hour* and *Till Death Us Do Part*, Dennis Main Wilson created a standard for radio and television comedy which has never been surpassed. He strongly believed that "you can never teach people how to write comedy. It's a gift, and the most that a producer can do is create the right atmosphere, a corporate greenhouse in which genuine talent can flourish." This was a self-effacing account of his contribution.

Among those whose talents he nurtured were such writers as Spike Milligan, Ray Galton and Alan Simpson, Marty Feldman and Johnny Speight, as well as some of the greatest comedy performers of our time — Tony Hancock, Kenneth Williams, Harry Secombe, Peter Sellers, Jimmy Edwards, Warren Mitchell, Dandy Nichols and Una Stubbs.

For most of his professional life he worked for the BBC, and he had no doubts about its place in British society: "It should never be a guardian of public morals, nor does it exist to patronise its licence-payers from an imaginary great height. It should be the nation speaking to itself." His own productions always had a sharp connection with social and political reality.

He was born in Dulwich, the son of an engineer, and won a scholarship to a grammar school in Lewisham. After a period as a wartime evacuee in Tunbridge Wells, where he developed a talent for languages, he briefly joined the BBC's European Service at the age of 17, knowing that he would soon be conscripted into the Armed Forces. His temporary radio work lasted for a year, and as a production assistant he joined a unit making satirical propaganda programmes, including a comedy series in German, located in Bavaria. "This was real alternative comedy," he said later, "unlike today's comedy where the only enemy is our own society."

In 1942 he was conscripted into the Royal Armoured Corps and a few months later, after a successful War Office selection board, he went to Sandhurst and was commissioned into the Armoured Cavalry. He served in North Western Europe after the Normandy landings, and in 1945 was seconded to the Control Commission for Germany.

There he became head of light entertainment for Nordwestdeutscher Rundfunk, based in Hamburg, whose Controller was Hugh Carleton Greene.

He stayed there, still in the Army, until 1947, developed his talent for liberated comedy and, surprisingly, made his programmes without any official censorship. Censorship in any form was always, for Dennis Main Wilson, an unacceptable imposition and he resisted it from his days in Hamburg to his time with *Till Death Us Do Part*.

After his demobilisation at the age of 23 he joined the permanent staff of the BBC in the radio variety department, where his first assignment was to find new talent. Most of those he discovered were inevitably ex-servicemen. He auditioned Bob Monkhouse, admired Peter Sellers at the Windmill Theatre, met Tony Hancock at the Nuffield Forces Centre, and at Jimmy Grafton's pub he was introduced to the Goon gang. He started *Opportunity Knocks* with Hughie Green, and launched the George Mitchell Glee Club. But his main contribution to radio was his passion for new writers and artists and his ability to reflect their talents in programmes that were both popular and revolutionary.

The first episode of *The Goon Show* was transmitted in May 1951 and the opening series ran for 17 episodes. A provocative series, full of fun, satire, and fantasy, it was accepted after many bureaucratic wrangles, a situation with which Dennis Main Wilson soon became familiar. It perfectly reflected his ability as a producer to combine the talents of authors and performers, and to express them creatively by the imaginative use of the latest broadcasting techniques.

His belief in the creative importance of the scriptwriter — *The Goon Show* owed much to the writing of Spike Milligan — was again shown in 1954 by *Hancock's Half Hour*, written by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson, who were then in their early twenties. As with *The Goon Show* he effectively combined the skills of the writers with those of his carefully chosen artists — Tony Hancock, Sid James, Hattie Jacques, Bill Kerr and Kenneth Williams. *Hancock's Half Hour*, of which he produced 68 episodes, remains a landmark in the history of radio comedy.

In 1957 he moved to television as a producer of light entertainment. For the next few years his work was consistent and professional rather than outstanding, and it included programmes of pop music, *The Rag Trade*, *The Dick Emery Show* and a series of "storyline spectaculars" starring Terry Scott, which he later regarded as "the launchpad of my television career". It was a career that reached its peak in 1966, when the first episode of *Till Death Us Do Part* was transmitted.

Like so much of Dennis Main Wilson's best work it combined a deep respect for tradition with a passion for originality, and once again he formed a creative partnership with the author, in this case Johnny Speight. They had much in common, and especially their belief that comedy should be realistic, satirical, and full of serious social comment, producing in the audience both anger and laughter.

Speight, born and brought up in East London's docklands, had personal knowledge of "Alf Garnett" and all the fierce prejudices that he represented, and in Dennis Main Wilson he found the producer who gave him all the support he needed. Together they fought hard against the hostility which greeted them, in political circles, in the campaign led by Mary Whitehouse, in viewers' correspondence, and within the BBC itself — though they were greatly helped by the liberal atmosphere created in the 1960s by Sir Hugh Greene as Director-General.

The comedy had an unassailable core of truth; part of the audience recognised itself in Alf Garnett and his family. It was soon to be the most popular programme in the country. Garnett, so well played by Warren Mitchell, reflected all the prejudices that his author and producer deeply disliked, and the reality of his domestic existence forced the public to think seriously about itself in a way that had rarely been achieved in serious documentaries or programmes of political debate.

Till Death Us Do Part remained the peak of Dennis Main Wilson's career, though his later work maintained his high professional standards and continued to reflect his conviction that the best comedy was always a serious comment on the world in which we live. He produced another series by Johnny Speight, six *Surrealist Fantasies* by Eric Sykes, and a series written jointly by Marty Feldman and Johnny Speight. He never lost his enthusiasm for discovering new writers.

He left the BBC's staff in 1983, mainly because he believed it was becoming too bureaucratic. Like most producers of his generation he worked in an age when the basic responsibility had been left in the hands of the creative producers. By the 1980s he thought that producers' freedom had become increasingly restricted.

In 1983 he made a series for Channel 4, *The Lady Is A Tramp* by Johnny Speight, which he enjoyed, and he returned to radio to write a *History of British Comedy* for the BBC World Service. His last years were mainly devoted to writing an *Encyclopaedia of British Popular Humour*.

He is survived by his wife Sylvia, a son and daughter.

PROFESSOR JAMES CROSS

Professor James Cross, scholar of Anglo-Saxon, died on December 18 aged 76. He was born on July 20, 1920.

IN HIS work on the prose writings of the 9th and 10th centuries, James Cross made it finally impossible to think of the literary life of Anglo-Saxon England as being somehow divorced from the mainstream Latin-based medieval culture of the Continent. In particular, through his studies of the homilies of Aelfric, he demonstrated that Old English prose owed both its fluency and the range of its reference to Christian Latin authors from as early as St Augustine in the 5th century, and to Irish Christian authors of even earlier date.

Cross produced no single major study of Old English literature. Rather, his impact was through a steady stream of articles which progressively illuminated the recesses of his subject. In this process, students at Liverpool University, where he was Baines Professor of English Language from 1965 to 1985, were much the gainers. His tenure of the chair transformed Anglo-Saxon studies at Liverpool University, where his infectious enthusiasm and honesty were evident not only in his commitment to Anglo-Saxon studies, but also to Old Norse and the Middle English period, on all of which he lectured memorably.

Cross's reputation was aninternational one. Even after his retirement his output of scholarly articles remained undiminished. Only last year a symposium was held in his honour at the University of Michigan.

James Cross was born in Gloucestershire, in the Forest of Dean. He was educated at East Dean Grammar School, Cinderford, and Bristol University, where he edited the student magazine. War interrupted his studies and he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery. He served in North Africa and the Normandy campaign, during which he was wounded when a mine exploded under his Jeep.

He was out of action for six months but was able to return to service before the end of the war. On demobilisation he returned to Bristol and graduated with a first in English in 1946. He next took a diploma in education, also at Bristol. But his first academic appointment was in Sweden, at Lund University, where he was English *lektor* from 1947 to 1949. He was to retain his links with Sweden (as well as with Norway and Finland) for the remainder of his life, and in 1962 Lund conferred a doctorate on him for his collected works in the field, published as *Latin Themes in Old English Poetry*.

In 1949 he returned to Bristol as a lecturer, and was subsequently made Reader. In 1965 he was appointed to the Baines Chair at Liverpool, where he was to spend the rest of his academic life. His early work had concentrated on Anglo-Saxon poetry and the influences on it. But it was the great age of Anglo-Saxon prose that was eventually to dominate his concerns. He was an authority on the influences on the 9th-century *Old English Martyrology*; he illuminated the sources of the homilies of Aelfric; he was widely read in the Latin texts that had preceded them and could demonstrate some of the less-suspected influences, such as those of the Latin authors of the Ireland of the Dark Ages.

Cross published ten books and nearly a hundred papers. It was his nature to want to get the results of his researches into print as soon as possible rather than to wait for them to gestate to become a *magnum opus*. This made him an exciting head of department, since the results of his researches were always immediately available to fertilise thought on the subject. There was very much a work-in-progress quality about his output, and this was highly stimulating to those around him.

His 65th birthday was marked by the production of a *festschrift* by scholars from Britain, the Continent and the United States, where by that time he had acquired an immense reputation. Retirement from the Baines Chair saw no diminution in his output. Among his "retirement" projects were (in collaboration with Tom Hill at Cornell) *Solomon and Saturn* and *Adrian and Ritheus*, annotated collections of Anglo-Saxon lore; the *Copenhagen Wulfstan Collection* (with Jennifer Tunberg) for the Early English Manuscripts in Facsimile series; the American-based *Sources for Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture* and the British-based *Fontes Anglo-Saxonici*, as well as a continuing flood of papers. A month before his death he had published two more editions of Old English texts and he had further editing projects in the pipeline.

James Cross is survived by his wife Joyce, who was a great support to him in all his work, and by a son and a daughter.

ILLTYD JAMES

Illtyd James, general and neurological surgeon and teacher, died on December 22 aged 96. He was born on July 7, 1900.

IN THE course of his long association with the Middlesex Hospital and its medical school, Illtyd James established a lasting reputation both as a skilled and meticulous surgeon, and as a dedicated and demanding teacher. His surgical interests and expertise were wide, and he had an enormous appetite for work. Although he suffered all his life from asthma, he refused to allow this to limit his daunting workload. He liked to to claim that the air of the operating theatre suited him better than that anywhere else.

Thomas Geraint Illtyd James was born in Barry, South Wales, and educated at the local county grammar school. He won a scholarship to University College, Cardiff, and was one of the first students to enter the new Welsh National School of Medicine.

Gaining several prizes and taking a BSc on the way, he obtained his medical degree with distinction in 1924. After two years at Cardiff Royal Infirmary he moved to London and in 1928 added the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England to the FRCS of Edinburgh that he had obtained a year earlier.

In 1928 he was appointed as a resident medical officer to Park Royal Hospital in north-west London and in 1935 he was the first surgeon appointed by the Middlesex County Council to this same hospital, now with its new name of the Central Middlesex.

Here he was to work with great distinction for the rest of his professional life. Almost immediately on taking up his duties he decided to gain experience in the developing and exciting field of neurosurgery and was permitted to take leave of absence for a year to be assistant to Sir Hugh Cairns at the London Hospital. The terms under which this permission was granted were not generous. He was required to pay half the salary of his locum and made to sign a promise to return to his post at the end of one year exactly.

After his return in 1936 he quickly made a name for himself as a surgeon both in neurological and general surgery. At that time it was possible to maintain a very broad base in surgical practice, and Illtyd James retained his interest and expertise in gastro-enterology and in the surgery of the thyroid gland.

At the outbreak of war in 1939 he was enrolled by the Emergency Medical Services as a neurosurgeon attached to the Middlesex Hospital, London. During the London Blitz the workload became extremely heavy and he frequently had to sleep at the hospital for several successive nights.

This period established a firm link with the Middlesex which had already started when, together with Sir Francis Avery Jones and the late Dr Horace Joules, he began to provide clinical teaching for medical students from the medical school.

After the war clinical teaching at the Central Middlesex became an established and prized part of the curriculum and James played a major role in the negotiations with the Middlesex Hospital Medical School to bring this about. Later this was to be followed by the establishment of rotating training programmes for postgraduate doctors in all specialities.

He soon began to establish a reputation as a teacher of undergraduates and as a superb trainer of surgeons. He served on the academic board of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School and was appointed to the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

He developed his department of neurosurgery with characteristic energy and, with the appointment of a second full-time neurosurgeon, the late Iain Roberts, it became a regional neurosurgical centre for the North West Thames Region. This centre continued to flourish for nearly twenty years after his retirement in 1965 and was then transferred as a complete unit to Charing Cross Hospital, where it remains.

During his long retirement he had no difficulty in occupying his active, inquiring mind and his skilled hands. He was an ardent gardener both at his home in Ealing and his cottage in Hertfordshire. He continued to cultivate his lifelong interest in classical literature and Welsh culture. He taught himself to read Russian and became an expert miniature painter.

After his wife Dorothy died in 1993 he continued to live at his Ealing home, looking after himself completely. He is survived by his son Peter, a histopathologist at Nottingham University Hospital.

ON THIS DAY

January 22, 1932

In 1918 Lytton Strachey became famous almost overnight on the publication of his Eminent Victorians *with its sharply drawn portraits of Florence Nightingale, Dr Arnold, Headmaster of Rugby, General Gordon and Cardinal Manning.*

MR. LYTTON STRACHEY.

We regret to announce that Mr. Lytton Strachey, the romantic and yet realistic biographer, died yesterday at Inkpen, Bucks, at the age of 51. He had been ill with an internal malady since last November.

Giles Lytton Strachey was born on March 1, 1880, the fourth son of Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Strachey, who had a brilliant career in India. His mother, a daughter of Sir John Peter Grant, of Rothiemurchus, the friend of "Clemency" Canning, had much literary taste and edited the delightful "Memoirs of a Highland Lady." He was educated privately and at Trinity College, Cambridge, but his degree of LL.D came from Edinburgh.

In 1918 Strachey suddenly became famous on the publication of his book, "Eminent Victorians", biographical studies of Miss Florence Nightingale, Dr Arnold, the headmaster of Rugby, General Gordon, and Cardinal Manning. He was instantly regarded as a wicked, irreverent, and satirical rogue, who dared to make fun in a cold, witty, heartless manner of heroism in general and of the Victorian kinds of it in particular.

Three years later came his "Queen Victoria": and among many of his readers the first impression of his nature was but deepened by it. The great Queen seemed to them to have been torn from all thrones except that of her country and Empire. Gone were her first gracious maiden innocence; gone her great ladyhood; gone nearly all her claims to respect except that she worked very hard and lived a long time. There were others who withheld their judgment, observing that Mr. Strachey had at least drawn a credible portrait of a real, live developing character, not a State portrait of a crowned dummy: that he had purified his style of some obvious tricks of smartness, and — most interesting of all — that the farther he went in the story of Queen Victoria's life, the nearer he came to revealing, not the conventional admiration for a Sovereign, but his personal feeling for a very able and interesting woman. His portraits of Lord Melbourne, of the Prince Consort, of Disraeli, showed not only insight and imagination but romance. About such a man, who could "criticise like an 18th-century rationalist and admire like a 19th-century romantic", there were clearly very great possibilities; and, whatever its inaccuracies, superficial or profound, might have been, the Life of Queen Victoria came on further acquaintance to look like the herald of a new and very good sort of biography. It was a well-formed, and well-written narrative, based on judicious selection from all the available authorities, but reading "like a novel".

His next biographical study on anything like the same scale was "Elizabeth of Essex", published in 1928. The romantic was even clearer in this than in the previous books, and the mocker not nearly so clear. The portrait of Elizabeth is frankly the author's own reading of the facts, and even less than the Victoria a dictation: and the portrait of Essex owes still more to his scheme of elaborating the only sort of character which would fit the recorded facts. The results, in these two, in Bacon, in Philip of Spain and others, may not (could not, indeed) be the whole truth: but they make up a vivid narrative in which there is no historical falsification and a great deal of imaginative reconstruction.

In Lytton Strachey's other books, composed of shorter studies, there is the same attractive and always entertaining mixture of the romantic and the rationalist . . . Such a mind as his, with its power to absorb and to distil learning, its astute reflection, its demure wit, and its power of effort in it, should have been counted upon to achieve even greater results in the future.

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SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL COURT OF GOVERNORS of the Corporation will be held at Trinity House, Tower Hill, London EC3 at 3:15 p.m. on Monday, 23 June 1997, to receive the Annual Report of the Committee of Management, to elect Officers for the ensuing year and to transact such other business as may be necessary.
Notice is also given that COURTS OF GOVERNORS, if required, will be held at 2:25 p.m. on the following dates in 1997: Tuesday 14th January at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich; Wednesday 16th April, Tuesday 15th July and Wednesday 15th October at Trinity House, Tower Hill, London EC3.
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Cristina O'Halloran General Secretary

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TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

CAPON MARIA ALICE of Ashbury Court, 43 Sea Road, Westgate-on-Sea Kent. Widow. Died on 3rd January 1997. Particulars to STANLEY CHARLES CAPON & ALICE MATILDA ROSE HEMAN Executors of MARIA ALICE CAPON c/o Samuels Marks Freedman & Nelfeld 37 Gloucester Place London W1H 4AR on or before 27th March 1997

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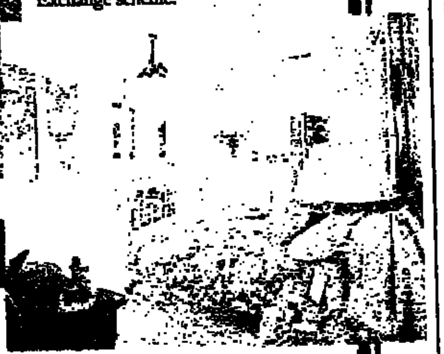

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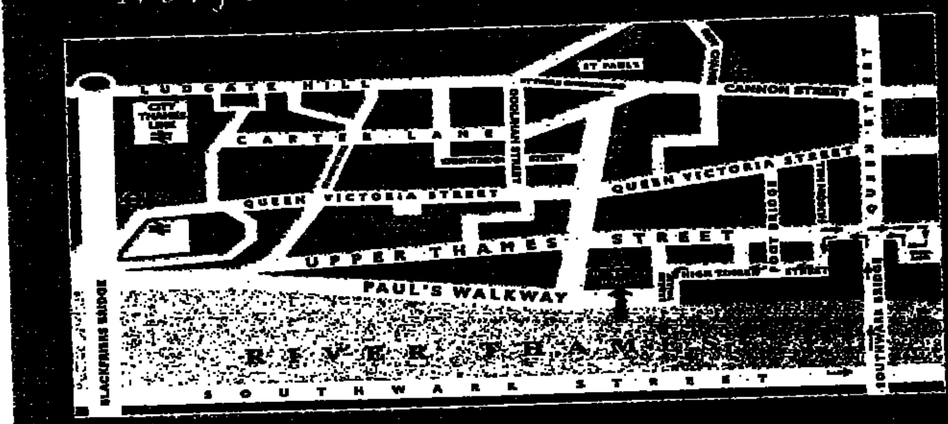

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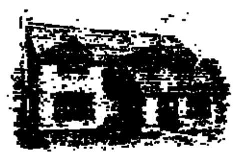

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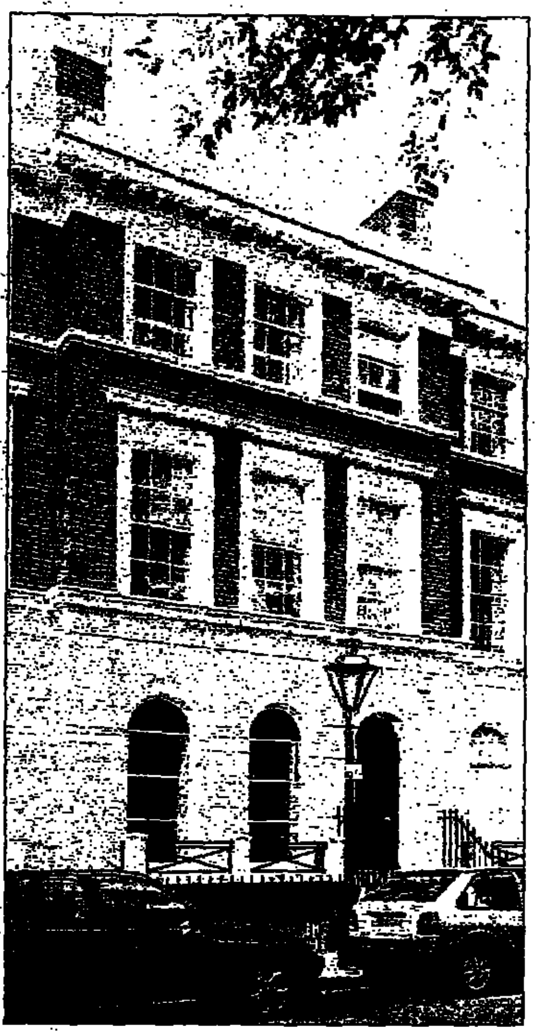
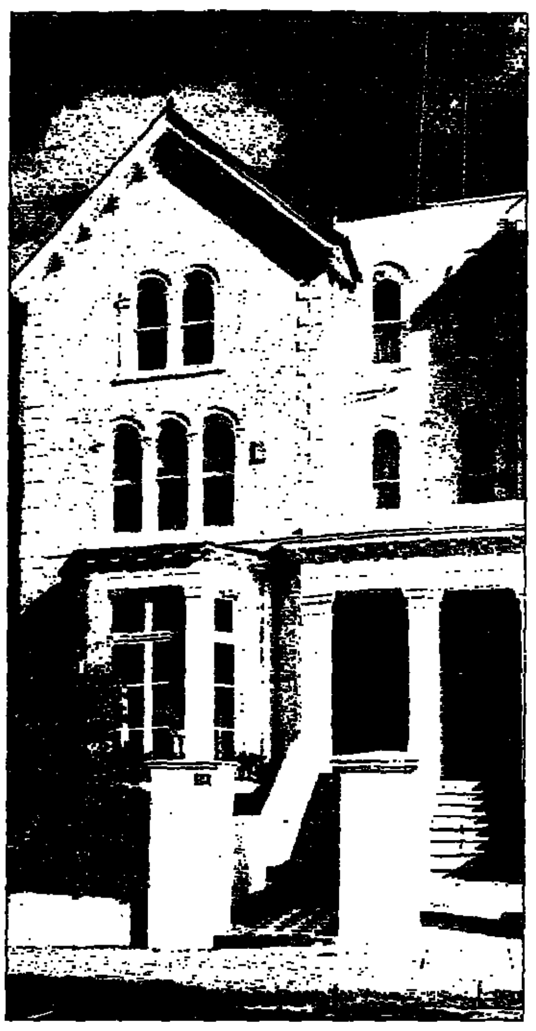
Where £1 million is not enough

Until recently, a seven-figure sum would secure almost any property you desired, even in the exclusive avenues of Chelsea, Hampstead or Knightsbridge. Not any more, says **Rachel Kelly**



Almost suitable: You might assume that for almost a million (£985,000), 11 St James's Gardens would qualify as the perfect London family house. But the cognoscenti might reject its lack of a communal garden at the back (guaranteeing security and the right kind of neighbours), and the fact that it is on the periphery of ultra-smart London. It may be close to Notting Hill, but does not lie within the "golden triangle" of top metropolitan addresses.



Eminently suitable: Also for sale through John D. Wood, 54 Lansdowne Road is in the exclusive nexus of streets to the west of Ladbroke Grove in Notting Hill, west London. It satisfies all the "must-have" requirements of the very rich: a communal garden accessible from the back of the house, where Norland nannies can swap details of their pay cheques; plus the period features, including high ceilings, demanded by top bankers for their corporate entertaining. The price? £1.3 million.

Nicola Horlick, the City "superwoman" suspended by Morgan Grenfell, is hoping to move from her £1.25 million home in Kensington to a new £3 million house in The Little Boltons, Chelsea. Her existing home is too small, she says, and her youngest child Antonia has to sleep in the drawing room.

Therein lies a truth about the top end of London's housing market: large family houses in the centre of town have gone through the £1 million mark.

The Norland nanny, Gucci-clad, Range Rover-driving brigade want low-built, five or six-bedroom freehold houses with private gardens, easy access to communal gardens, garages, good security and staff accommodation in Chelsea, Knightsbridge, Belgravia, Kensington, Hampstead, St John's Wood or Notting Hill Gate. They can now expect to pay a minimum of around £1.5 million for their des. res.

"This has only just happened," says Anthony Lassman, a long-time specialist in the so-called "unreal" market of super-expensive houses. "In the boom years of 1983 and 1984, buyers with £1 million to spend could expect to find a very good family house in these areas. By the late 1980s, the best houses started to cost a bit more. Then prices fell back, and it was not until last year that they rose again significantly. Now prices have surpassed those of the late 1980s because demand has outstripped supply. You can expect to pay anything from £2.75 million to £5 million."

Knight Frank's latest figures show that prime London prices rose by 17.6 per cent last year.

"People with £1 million in the bank imagine it will buy them a home of palatial proportions in the perfect location," says Willie Gething of the buying agents Property Vision. "It comes as a bit of a shock when they discover the truth. What they want and what they can get are no longer the same thing."

Mr Gething says that prices have been forced over the million mark because London has become the financial capital of Europe. "The city's international appeal is tremendous," he says. Foreign buyers compete and win against their British counterparts. While France and Germany struggle with recession and high taxes, London is on the cover of *Newsweek*.

Knight Frank estimates that a third of its sales are now made to European buyers, compared with 13 per cent a year ago. British buyers account for just 38 per cent of sales.

"More and more British buyers with a million to spend are moving south of the river or out of the centre," says Mr Gething. David Forbes, from the agents Chesterfield, agrees that the rich now have to consider what was once thought of as "tiger country".

"Day after day I get requests for a five-bedroom family house with a garden and off-street parking in a prime location with a price tag of £1 million," he says. "Well, the two are incompatible. You must either find more to spend or consider Wandsworth or Putney."

The heart of central London is being taken over by the richest of American and European investment bankers who can muscle their way to the top deals. Other, more junior, bank employees are having to rent while they continue their search.

Adam Carey, from Friend & Falcke's Chelsea office, says: "Whereas a typical family house in Paultons Square, Chelsea, would have cost £1,100 a week last year, now you would be looking at £1,300 a week."

This is essentially a City phenomenon led by the mergers and acquisitions boys, says Stephen Newbold, a partner with Knight Frank. "The City boom, plus an upturn in confidence, has mopped up much of the supply of freehold houses in Kensington and Chelsea."

Buyers are picky. Take two houses, both for sale at around the million mark through John D. Wood: one in Carlyle Square, Chelsea; and one in St James's Gardens, W11. Despite the high asking prices, neither is quite right for the discerning family buyer. Both are too small, one has no parking and the St James's house is perceived to be on the periphery of central London, especially by foreign buyers.

Or take the example of a house in Old Church Street, London SW3, on sale for £1.15 million through Chestertons Residential. The agents say it is on the small side for the perfect family home, and will sell as a top-flight "bachelor pad" instead.

The boundaries acceptable for top London houses are precise, says Ian Homersham of John D. Wood. Buyers chiefly want to be in three areas: parts of Kensington, parts of Belgravia and parts of Chelsea.

In Kensington, buyers want to live in Holland Villas Road or Addison Road, two avenues of mainly detached, double-fronted Victorian houses with in-and-out drives to the west of Holland Park, where prices top £4 million. Houses with good private gardens backing on to communal gardens to the north of Holland Park start at £2.5 million; mid 19th-century to late 19th-century stucco-fronted houses on long leases in Phillimore Gardens and Essex Villas cost from £1.75 million to £3.5 million; and houses on or leading off Victoria Road to the south of Kensington High Street cost between £2 million and £3 million.

In Belgravia, houses are acceptable in Eaton Square, Wilton Crescent, Chester Square and Belgrave Square. In Chelsea, Cheyne Gardens, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea Park Gardens and Chelsea Square fit the bill, as do parts of the Boltons, Tregunter Road and Little Boltons.

In Hampstead, Church Row and Hampstead Square are the most sought-after addresses for Georgian period homes.

Prices are precisely definedly, too. Jonathan Hewlett from Savills says that suitable family houses now start at £1.25 million in Chelsea and £1.4 million in Knightsbridge.

Of course, the market for such properties is tiny. Land Registry figures show there were just 44 sales of houses valued at between £1 million and £1.25 million between July and September last year, and only ten sales of £2 million or above.

But the high price of houses in the centre of London ripples outwards, raising the prices of houses in the suburbs and making those in the centre well nigh unaffordable. We may complain but, as Willie Gething concludes: "If you think that London is expensive, look at the prices for comparable properties in Manhattan, Tokyo — or Bombay."

Homeward bound: a deer hunter at Gaick returns with his kill

Luggage man is new monarch of the glen

One of Scotland's pre-eminent sporting estates has been sold to the Vuitton family, founders of the French luggage empire, for more than £2 million.

Gaick, at Glen Tromie in the Grampians, is best known for the paintings of the wildlife artist Archibald Thorburn, most notably his *Sunrise over Gaick*. Mr Thorburn first visited the estate in 1889 and painted ptarmigan, grouse, golden eagles, hares and red deer there.

Gaick Lodge, built in about 1820 and one of the oldest sporting properties in Scotland, lies at the heart of the 18,225-acre estate and is nine miles from the nearest neighbours, although there is a bothy attached to the back of the property and a stalker's house near by. The small town of Kingussie lies 14 miles away.

Xavier Vuitton is a keen sportsman who plans to run the estate — the rugged landscape of which rises to just under 3,000 feet at its highest point — on traditional lines.

"Gaick boasts an average of 97 stags and 175 hinds, as well as grouse and rough shooting, and trout and salmon fishing in the lochs and the River Tromie," says Allan Macpherson-Fletcher from agents Strutt & Parker, who sold the property.

"Keeping the estate going takes a lot of work — it could cost £60,000 to £80,000 a year to run. The only profits to be had are from selling venison to game dealers, or issuing game licences."

Passed over by the Duke of Gordon during the Highland Clearances in the 18th century because of its fine deer herd, Gaick was a favourite hunting ground of Queen Victoria, who often stayed there when she was visiting Balmoral.

For the past 100 years, visitors to the Lodge have carved their names in the dining room's pine panelling. Archibald Thorburn and another great 19th-century artist, Sir Edwin Landseer, have both left their marks.

Gaick has a past both illustrious and mysterious. After the catastrophic defeat of the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion at Culloden, the clans rallied 10 miles from Gaick, awaiting a further call to arms from Bonnie Prince Charlie. But the Prince had already fled.

A far more sinister event, known in local folklore as *Call Ghàig* or "the Gaick catastrophe", occurred 55 years after Culloden. Mr Macpherson-Fletcher, whose own estate lies not far from Gaick, says: "In January 1800, an avalanche swept away the old lodge at Gaick during a deer-stalking party led by Captain John Macpherson of Ballachroan — no relation to me — who was known as 'the black officer'. When villagers went to investigate, they are said to have found the party frozen to death around a card table, even though the whole lodge had been swept away.

"They say they had been playing cards with the Devil, as Macpherson was known to bully people into joining the King's army."

More recently, the estate was run along traditional lines by four friends who owned it for the past 25 years. But they are in their seventies now, Mr Macpherson-Fletcher says, and felt it was time to pass it on to a younger generation.

AMANDA LOOSE

Curbs on new building are a blow to the homeless

*In her second article on homelessness, **Rachel Kelly** looks at the lack of funds for social housing.*

Lucky: housing association tenants the Higginses

FRANK HIGGINS, a fitter, lives with his wife Catalina and sons Frank Jr, eight, Andrew, four, and Paul, one, in a two-bedroom flat on the Rootes Estate near Ladbroke Grove in west London. The family's rent is subsidised by the Notting Hill Housing Trust, whose programme this year is likely to be 480 new housing units. Cuts mean that next year this is expected to fall to 250 units.

"Frank and his family could be among the last lucky ones," says the trust's Eddie Concalves. "In future we may not be able to house families like the Higginses. And even they may not escape the cuts — if the family grows, associations such as ours may not have a home big enough for them."

Sir Brian Pease is normally mild in his comments. Yet when the Government announced its latest public housing cuts in last year's Budget, the chairman of the Housing Corporation, the organisation which funds low-cost homes, railed that the decision would have "devastating results for homeless people".

"Without satisfying housing needs, it is difficult to see how government policies to improves people's health, minimise crime, meet children's educational needs and boost employment prospects can succeed," Sir Brian said.

Yet because public housing is neither a hot political issue nor a hot media issue — chiefly because most journalists own their own homes — his remarks went almost unreported. David Curry, in his three years as Housing Minister, has not faced a single opposition day debate on the matter.

But Sir Brian is not alone. Other housing experts are also warning us that government cuts in public housing will have devastating results for homeless people this year.

"We are to going to face a crisis in the number of people in temporary accommodation — which already stands at 43,000 families," says John Perry, the director of policy at the Chartered Institute of Housing. "We are building the lowest number of new homes since rebuilding started after the war. And the number of homes to be let to those on low incomes will fall short of the Government's own targets."

In last year's Budget, grants for social housing were cut from £1.06 billion in 1996-97 to £650 million for 1997-98. The Government also cut local authority repairs and renovation budgets by £250 million. This means the housing programme has taken a 30 per cent capital cut in real terms, by far the largest cut of any government programme. The National Housing Federation, which represents housing associations, says that the worst-hit region will be the North, which will lose 1,280 homes — a 64 per cent cut in new social housing. London will lose 7,000 homes.

Analysts claim the cuts represent an abandonment of the Government's stated target of building 60,000 new homes each year in order to meet minimum housing needs.

Jim Coulter, the chief executive of the NHF, says: "The Government has failed abysmally. Earlier this year, David Curry defended his minimum target to the Environmental Select Committee against criticism that it was too low. "He now seems to have abandoned even that target."

Housing organisations claim that in fact, 100,000 new homes need to be built every year to cope with growing demand — especially from single people.

Only last year the Environment Secretary, John Gummer, said that 4.4 million homes needed to be built in Britain during the next two decades. "In that context the Budget cuts make no sense at all," says Christine Laird, the Chartered Institute of Housing's chief executive.

Mr Curry defends the Government's estimates. "The latest evidence of continued growth in private rented housing and home ownership shows that we are right to provide social housing at the lower end of our range of estimates," he says.

The Government estimates that it will be building 43,000 new homes a year by the end of the decade. "In previous years far more than 60,000 new lettings were built — so by the end of the decade the Government's target will have been met," a spokesman for the Department of the Environment says. "Besides the £2.5 billion provided by the Government for housing associations, we will be expecting nearly £2 billion in private finance for social lettings. And since the Budget, local authorities are able to use 25 per cent of receipts from the sale of council houses to reinvest in their housing stock."

Other funding for social housing comes from the Estates Renewal Challenge Fund, which helps to meet the cost of transferring council houses to new landlords. It was announced in the Budget that the fund would receive an extra £70 million in the next three years.

But experts dismiss the Government's figures. "The target which was set was based on performance over the past ten years," Mr Perry says. "To go back to earlier figures and take them into account is illogical.

"The cuts make it difficult to bring in new money. For every £1 cut from the public sector, we lose £1 from the private sector because we cannot underpin the value of housing programmes."

The reality of cuts will hit the 11 million people who live in local authority housing. Council houses nationwide are rotting because of reduced maintenance and repair budgets, and the need for inner-city regeneration means that politicians — and journalists — surely cannot ignore the pressing social housing problem for much longer.

Additional research by Gautam Malkani

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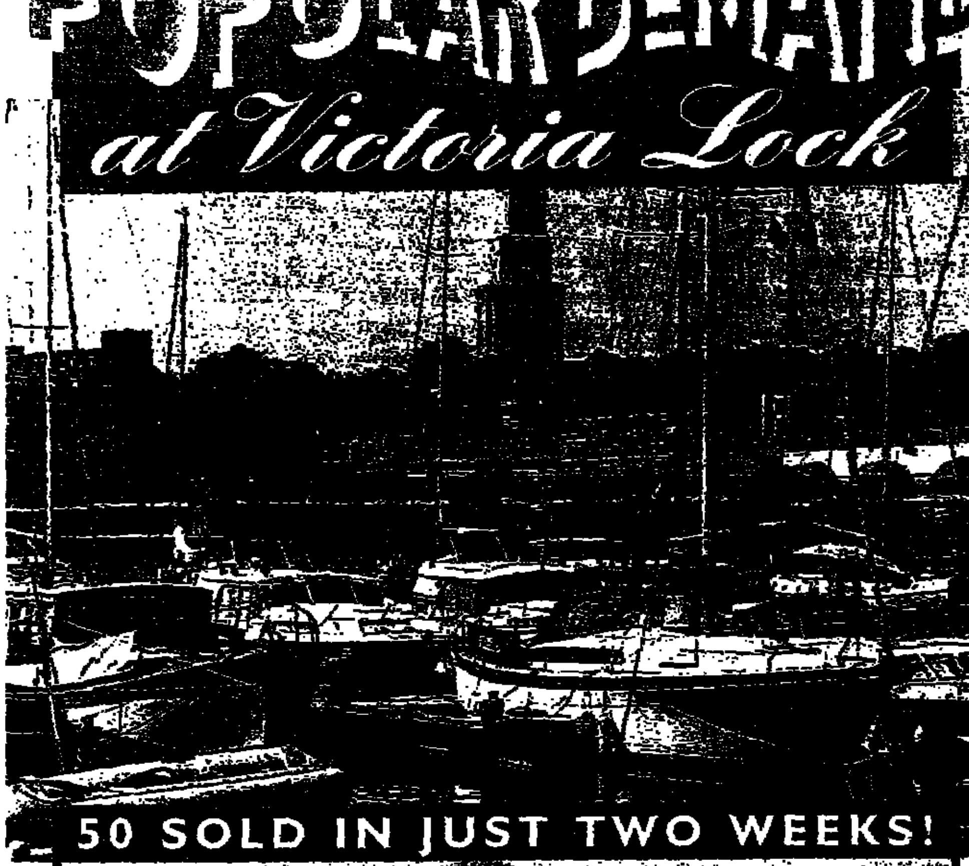

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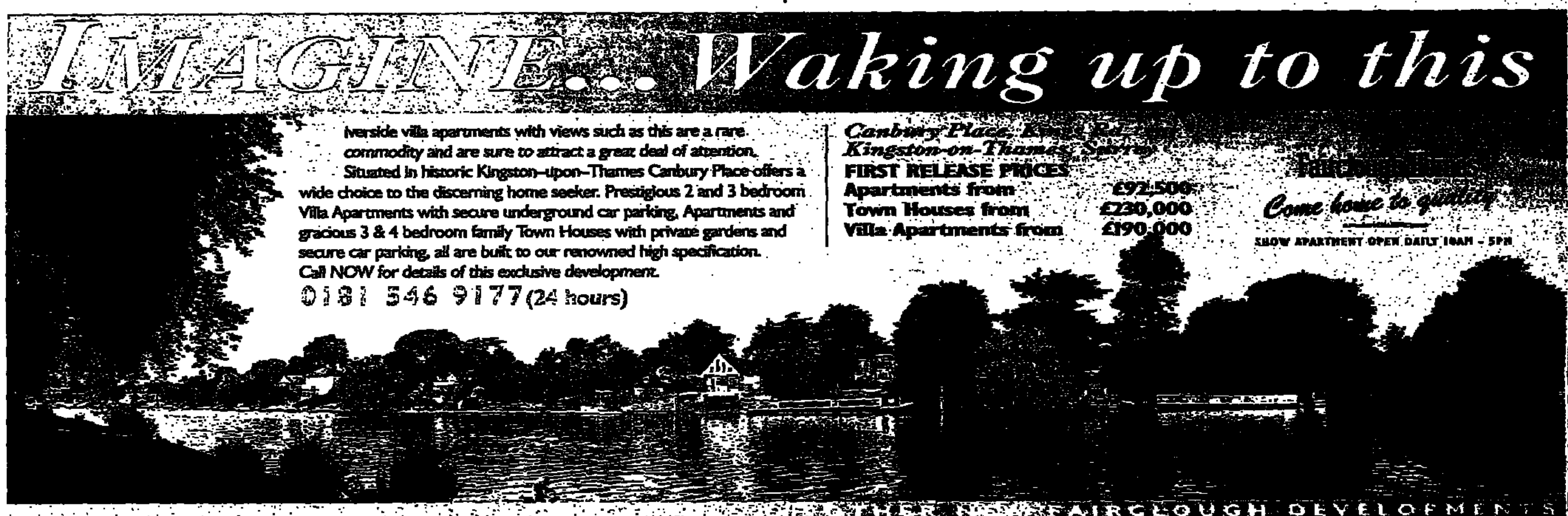

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SOUTH KENSINGTON, SW7
A superb third floor [illegible] flat which is ideal for entertaining. Beautifully decorated and modernised. Two reception rooms, fitted luxury kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, cloakroom. Communal CH. Lift. Porter.
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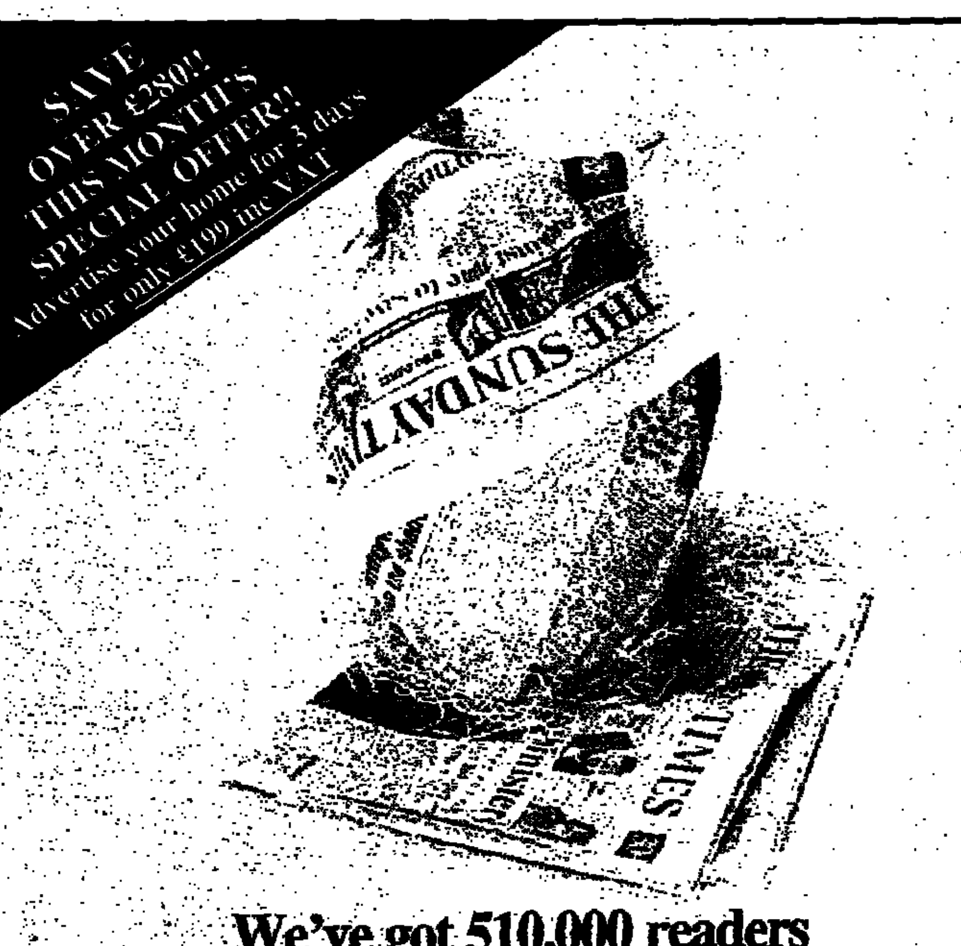
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THE TIMES TODAY

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22 1997

NEWS

Heseltine names Labour 'front men'

■ Michael Heseltine enraged some of Britain's top businessmen by accusing them of being front men for the Labour Party and of writing a politically motivated report.

Having demanded an invitation to speak at a conference to be addressed by Tony Blair, he insulted his hosts by claiming that the whole event was a "set up" to give the illusion that Labour had business support............Pages 1, 2

Whitehall let UK firm sell arms to Hutus

■ A inquiry has found that the Government failed to implement all the requirements of a UN arms embargo on Rwanda, which allowed a British company to supply weapons to extremist Hutu militia. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, admitted in a Commons answer that the UN arms embargo was not implemented in the Isle of Man........ Page 1

Del Boy blamed

Del Boy and Rodney were singled out as prime examples of the lowbrow culture undermining school standards by the Chief Inspector of Schools............Page 1

Cards anger sceptics

Euro-sceptics reacted angrily to proposals to introduce a European smartcard as an identity document............Page 2

Doctor struck off

A heart surgeon who was questioned about the murder of his former flatmate was struck off after the General Medical Council heard that he had "wriggled and squirmed and lied"....Page 3

Bugging compromise

Michael Howard is considering a compromise to ensure that the Police Bill gets through the Commons after the Lords voted against his plans for the bugging of suspects'............Page 4

Dial C for change

Eight million telephone users were told that they would need new numbers, barely two years after being promised that they would never have to change again............Page 5

Child sex abuse

Children living in care homes in North Wales during the 1970s and 1980s were subjected to physical and sexual abuse "bordering on wholesale exploitation", an inquiry was told............Page 6

Prison drug riot

A crackdown on drug abuse probably sparked 12 hours of rioting in a top security prison which caused damage costing an estimated £500,000............Page 8

Hunting support

Melvyn Bragg, caused fury in the Labour Party by dismissing its pledge to ban hunting as "sloppy thinking"............Page 9

Roar for Gore

When Al Gore skipped on to the stage of the Washington Ball, America's Vice-President was unable to contain his excitement as thousands of Democrats chanted "Gore in 2000"............Page 10

Holy alliance

Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority are working together for the first time to capitalise on last week's Hebron agreement to boost tourism to the Holy Land............Page 11

Museums accused

France's state auditors have accused national museum officials of failing in their legal duty to seek the rightful owners of 2,000 artworks stolen from Jews during the war............Page 12

End of the code

"Adieu morse." At midnight on January 31 the maritime listening post on Brittany's coast will stop receiving Morse Code messages as France abandons the signal system............Page 13

Men give way to women on the road

■ Women drivers have earned the respect of all but the most die-hard chauvinists. Since 1988 the proportion of men claiming that they are better drivers than women has fallen from 35 per cent to 24 per cent, says the ninth Lex report on motoring. The proportion of women who believe they are better drivers has risen from 45 per cent to 54 per cent............Page 3

ALAN WELLER

Nominees for the top Lawrence Olivier Awards, Paul Scofield, Eileen Atkins, Janet McTeer and David Suchet, at the National Theatre

BUSINESS

Economy: The CBI revealed the first damage of the high pound to industry. It said lower exports and slower growth had to be considered in the decision on whether interest rates should rise............Page 25

Motoring: Nissan, the Japanese car maker, is to create 800 jobs at its Sunderland factory through the production of a new saloon car and 2,700 more jobs are expected at car component factories............Page 25

Nicola Horlick: The Morgan Grenfell star fund manager said yesterday that her chances of getting her job back were slim............Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 1.5 to 4195.5. Sterling rose from 96.8 to 96.9 after a fall from $1.6630 to $1.6622 but a rise from DM2.7004 to DM2.7006............Page 28

SPORT

Rugby union: Scotland have made seven changes to their side for the match against England. Gregor Townsend switches from centre to stand-off half............Page 48

Football: Northern Ireland have called in Jon McCarthy, the Port Vale midfielder, to bolster their weakened squad for the match against Italy in Palermo... Page 48

Tennis: Mary Pierce reached the semi-finals of the Australian Open with a three-set victory over Sabine Appelmans. She will meet Amanda Coetzer, who easily beat Kimberley Po............Page 46

Cricket: Alan Lee writes that, of all the significant nations in the cricket world, New Zealand stand alone in treating England with a deference they hardly deserve............Page 43

ARTS

Colony culture: Just five months before Hong Kong is handed over to China, the British Council unveils its new £11 million headquarters there in anticipation of an even bigger role ahead............Page 35

Guitar man: The guitarist Paco Peña brings his flamenco troupe back for a month-long residency at Sadler's Wells Peacock Theatre and tells Joanna Pitman why he is happy to be here again......Page 35

Crowing: For an old-fashioned rock band in their prime catch the Black Crowes, now on tour after a rousing gig in Cambridge ...... Page 36

Epic opera: As the Royal Opera rehearses Hans Pfitzner's *Palestrina* for its first staging in this country, the director Nikolaus Lehnhoff explains its appeal............Page 37

FEATURES

Love in the Nineties: What exercises us to the root of our being? Sex............Page 15

Nigella Lawson says it is men — underachieving at school, unwanted at work — who may be the second sex............Page 15

Fantasy: Galliano and McQueen are breaking new ground in haute couture — just as Yves Saint Laurant did............Page 14

Shopping: Mothers should go on a clothes-buying spree before their first child is born — they may never get another chance............Page 14

Not any more: If you think you can buy a large family home with garden in the centre of London for £1m, you are wrong............Page 21

Too silly: Channel 4's new series, *Fortean Tv*, takes on the myths and miracles............Page 33

Shakeup: If Radio 4 really needs changing, says Brenda Maddox, then dump *The Archers*.... Page 32

Will France be capable of reforming its justice system? The time has certainly come. At least everyone is in agreement that the French justice system has been in a moral crisis since the 1980s — *Le Figaro*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: The joke may finally be over for the Reliant Robin. *Trouble At the Top* (BBC2, 9.50pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond on Harold Pinter............Page 47

OPINION

Germany looks east

Nothing would be crueller than to encourage these countries to prepare for EU membership while holding up their exports at the frontier and their aspirations at the negotiating table............Page 17

Perils of triumphalism

If business leaders are queueing up to back the Opposition, they are doing so on the balance of probabilities............Page 17

War of the greens

The human body is a magnificently adaptable machine. Provided that the body is kept active, a naturally healthy hunger will usually find a healthy diet............Page 17

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

The voluntary principle that begat Barnado's 112 homes was a good one. There is no evidence that the State has any unique competence in caring for children............Page 16

SUE CAMERON

The Conservative MEP Graham Mather is among those who believe Britain needs a "Department for Europe" headed by a Cabinet minister............Page 16

PETER RIDDELL

Mr Heseltine's over-the-top response was not only politically misjudged but underlines how hard the Tories are finding it to grapple with the adroit repositioning of Labour............Page 9

SIMON BARNES

The latest brainwave from the political front is a call to bring back the terracing at Premiership football clubs. Remember Hillsborough? We all do, alas, but not, it appears, Tom Pendry, Labour's Shadow Sports Minister............Page 46

OBITUARIES

Dennis Main Wilson, producer; **Professor James Cross**, scholar of Anglo-Saxon; **Illtyd James**, neurological surgeon............Page 19

LETTERS

Normant Lamont and Lord Beloff on Europe; rail privatisation; Nicola Horlick; Chief Rabbi and non-orthodox Jews............Page 17

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FILMS
Geoff Brown on *The Frighteners* starring Michael J. Fox (left); plus other releases

■ BODY AND MIND
Dr Thomas Stuttaford on the problem of tooth loss for women with osteoporosis

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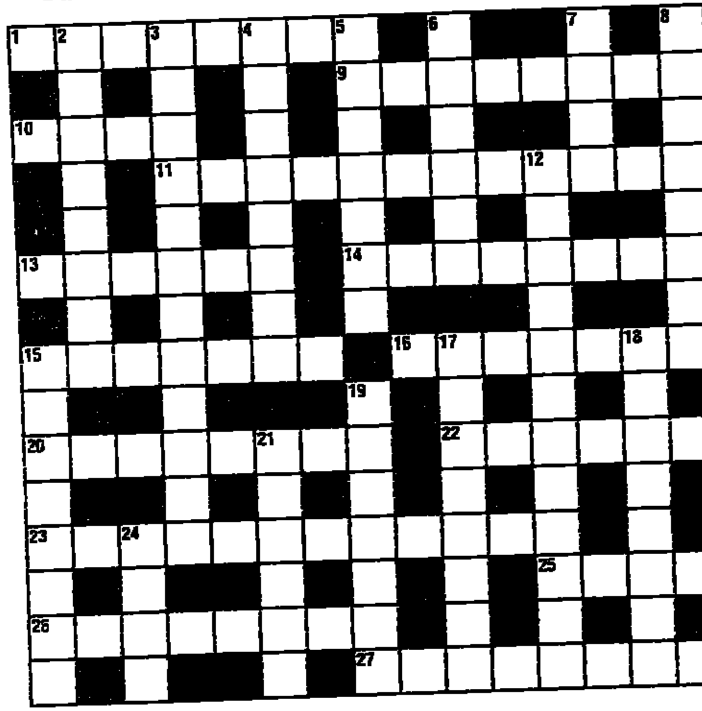

ACROSS
1 Portents in the papers, including the Times (8).
9 Hype up love poetry, lines briefly written (8).
10 Girl making a dozen old-fashioned pies (4).
11 Stop arguing, having settled scores with senate (4.4.4).
13 Old woman unfortunately rebuffed salutation (6).
14 Back China getting new weapons (8).
15 American detectives providing record for collection by fellows (7).
16 Second-class in vessel will do for this highlander (7).
20 Sound engineers legally bound (8).
22 Sketch again showing crimson and green (6).
23 Acts as moth at night turns up (5.2.5).
25 It sounds like I possess a small island (4).
26 Item of furniture that is superior gets poked about at first (4-4).
27 Contrived some plan to come to terms with redundancy (8).

DOWN
2 To restore American city, tax entertainment initially (8).
3 Shirt appears to be crumpled – it should sparkle (4.8).
4 Apparently energetic type without bulk shown up as flimsy (8).
5 Thus little woman may go on vessel for short holiday (7).
6 City info on thoroughfare being taken up (6).
7 Star participating in festive gathering (4).
8 Irritating substance makes everyone on work unit stop short (8).
12 Praise NT idea for new development within public space (12).
15 Man interrupts religious leader reading from the Bible (8).
17 Water from one river flowing both ways over barrier (8).
18 Without others around sailors collect shells (8).
19 Fortunately drink flows copiously (5.2).
21 Intervene and save money (4.2).
24 One is taken in by deranged girl (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,382

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Times Two Crossword, page 48

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Aboyne, Aberdeenshire 9C (48F); lowest day max: Buxton, Derbyshire 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Shetland, 0.01in; highest sunshine: Aspatria, Cumbria 7.2hr

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** a ridge of high pressure over Scotland will decline, while a frontal system moves slowly across the South. England and Wales will be dull and misty with rain or drizzle at times. Most of the rain should be light and patchy but heavier bursts are likely at times. It will be mild in the South, but rather cold in the North.

Scotland and Northern Ireland should be mainly dry with bright or sunny spells, but overnight fog patches may be slow to clear in places. Northwest Scotland will be cloudy with rain at times. Temperatures generally will be a little below normal.

☐ **London, SE England, Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England:** cloudy and misty. Rain or drizzle at times. Wind south or southeast, light to moderate. Mild. max 9C (48F).

☐ **E Anglia, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, S Wales:** cloudy and misty. Rain or drizzle at times. Wind south or southeast, light to moderate. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, NE England:** rain or drizzle spreading from south, falling as sleet or snow on mountains. Wind mainly southerly at first, becoming light and variable. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, Northern Ireland:** mainly dry with bright or sunny intervals but mist or fog patches may persist in places. Wind light and variable, mainly southerly. Rather cold, max 4C (39F).

☐ **NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy, rain at times. Becoming mainly dry later. Wind south or southwest, moderate to fresh. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain in east dying out, rain later in west. Temperatures near normal.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

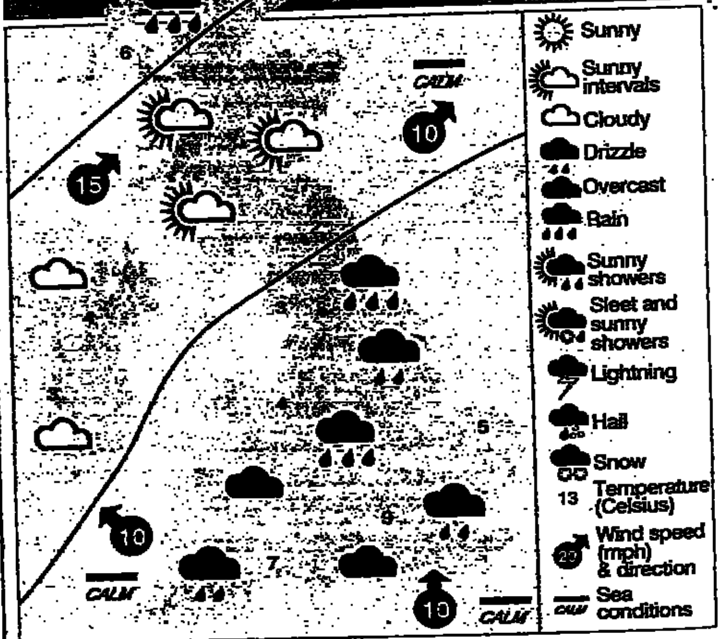
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Anglesey	7.0	-	7	45	s	Littlehmptn	5.8	0.01	6	43	s
Aspatria	7.2	-	6	43	s	London	4.8	-	7	45	s
Aviemore	5.1	-	5	41	s	Lowestoft	X				
Belfast	6.8	-	5	41	s	Manchester	3.7	-	6	43	s
Birmingham	1.2	0.01	5	41	b	Margate	5.0	-	5	41	s
Bognor R	5.2	-	5	41	s	Minehead	0.1	0.01	3	37	c
Bournem'th	4.3	-	6	43	s	Morecambe	4.5	-	3	37	s
Bristol	3.0	-	5	41	s	Newcastle	7.2	-	6	43	s
Buxton	0.5	-	1	34	du	Newquay	-	-	4	39	c
Cardiff	1.4	-	4	39	b	Norwich	2.1	-	4	39	b
Clacton	6.8	-	3	37	s	Oxford	2.3	0.01	4	39	c
Cleethorpes	X					Penzance	X	-	5	41	du
Cromer	1.0	0.01	4	39	c	Poole	3.4	-	6	43	s
Eastbourne	4.7	-	5	41	s	Prestatyn	X	-	4	39	s
Edinburgh	X					Ross-o-wye	0.8	-	4	39	b
Eskdalemuir	0.1	-	2	36	fg	Salcombe	X				
Exmouth	2.3	-	4	39	b	Sandown	3.9	-	5	41	s
Falmouth	-	-	5	41	du	Sauntn Snd	4.1	-	6	43	s
Fishguard	6.9	-	4	39	s	Scarboro	X				
Folkestone	2.0	-	5	41	b	Shanklin	X	-	5	41	s
Glasgow	1.6	-	7	45	c	Shrewsbury	0.8	0.01	3	37	fg
Guernsey	0.8	-	7	45	c	Southend	X				
Hastings	4.3	-	5	41	s	Southport	3.3	-	5	41	s
Hayling I	5.2	-	6	43	s	Southsea	4.9	-	6	43	s
Herne Bay	5.5	0.01	1	34	s	Stornoway	-	0.01	8	46	d
Hove	4.1	X	6	43	s	Swanage	2.9	-	5	41	b
Hunstanton	X	-	4	39	c	Teignmouth	1.2	-	5	41	b
Ilfracombe	X					Tenby	3.2	-	5	41	s
Isle of Man	4.1	-	7	45	s	Tiree	-	0.01	7	45	d
Jersey	1.5	0.01	5	41	b	Torquay	1.5	-	6	43	b
Kinloss	4.3	-	8	46	s	Tynemouth	X				
Leeds	3.5	-	4	39	s	Ventnor	3.9	-	5	41	s
Lerwick	-	0.01	7	45	r	West-s-mare	X				
Leuchars	3.5	-	5	41	du	Weymouth	3.0	-	6	43	s

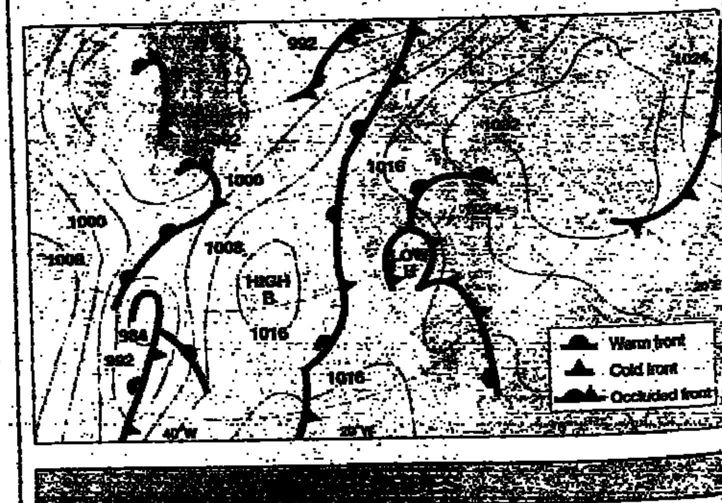
ABROAD

Ajaccio	18	64	s	C'phagn	2	36	c	Malaga	13	55	f	S Fr'isco	12	54	f
Akrotiri	18	64	s	Dublin	6	43	c	Malta	17	63	f	S Paulo	X		
Alex'dria	18	64	f	Dubrovnik	11	52	c	Melb'rne	37	99	s	Salzburg	4	39	f
Algiers	19	66	f	Faro	12	54	s	Mexico C	16	61	s	Santiago	29	84	s
Amst'dm	5	41	c	Florence	10	50	r	Miami	19	66	s	Seoul	5	41	f
Athens	15	59	s	Frankfurt	3	37	c	Milan	3	37	d	Sing'por	32	90	f
B Aires	31	88	s	Funchal	13	55	f	Montreal	-5	23	fg	St'kholm	-4	25	f
Bahrain	19	66	f	Geneva	3	37	r	Moscow	1	34	c	Strasb'rg	3	37	c
Bangkok	31	88	f	Gibraltar	11	52	r	Munich	6	43	f	Sydney	26	79	s
Barbados	29	84	f	Helsinki	-11	12	s	N Delhi	15	59	s	Tangier	11	52	r
Barcelona	13	55	c	Hong K	22	72	s	N York	-1	30	sn	Tel Aviv	17	63	f
Beirut	18	64	s	Innsbrck	3	37	s	Nairobi	27	81	f	Tenerife	15	59	r
Belgrade	3	37	f	Istanbul	9	48	f	Naples	16	61	f	Tokyo	11	52	s
Berlin	2	36	c	Jeddah	25	77	s	Nice	11	52	f	Toronto	-2	28	sn
Bermuda	15	59	f	Jo'burg	25	77	f	Oslo	-2	28	s	Tunis	18	64	s
Biarritz	9	48	r	L Angels	14	57	c	Paris	5	41	c	Valencia	13	55	f
Borde'x	10	50	f	L Palmas	19	66	f	Peking	0	32	s	Vanc'ver	7	45	f
Brussels	2	36	c	Le Touquet	5	41	f	Perth	23	73	f	Venice	7	45	r
Budapest	-1	30	c	Lisbon	12	54	s	Prague	0	32	c	Vienna	-2	28	c
Cairo	18	64	f	Locarno	3	37	d	Reykjavik	1	34	sl	Warsaw	-1	30	sl
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Luxembg	5	41	c	Rhodes	17	63	s	Wash'ton	X		
Chicago	3	37	s	Luxor	20	68	f	Rio de J	35	95	f	Wel'ngton	X		
Cologne	5	41	d	Madrid	8	46	r	Riyadh	18	64	f	Zurich	2	36	c
Corfu	14	57	s	Majorca	19	66	s	Rome	15	59	f				

Temperatures at midday local time on Monday X – not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: high B will drift slowly north with little change in pressure; low H will drift slowly northeast



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	00.57	6.8	13.20	6.8	Leith	01.50	5.1	14.11	5.3
Aberdeen	00.33	4.0	12.47	4.1	Liverpool	10.33	8.8	22.53	8.8
Avonmouth	06.23	12.3	18.48	12.4	Lowestoft	08.57	2.3	21.01	2.5
Belfast	10.14	3.5	22.44	3.2	Margate	11.30	4.3	23.43	4.4
Cardiff	06.09	11.4	18.34	11.5	Milford Haven	06.28	6.4	17.49	6.4
Devonport	05.03	5.1	17.25	5.0	Newquay	04.21	6.4	16.41	6.4
Dover	10.18	8.2	22.39	6.3	Oban	05.08	3.8	17.29	3.7
Dublin (N Wall)	10.59	4.1	23.16	3.9	Penzance	03.51	5.2	16.10	5.1
Falmouth	04.34	4.9	16.56	4.8	Portland	05.51	1.8	18.22	1.7
Greenock	11.46	3.3	-	-	Portsmouth	10.31	4.4	22.56	4.4
Harwich	11.09	3.6	23.29	3.7	Shoreham	10.24	5.7	22.54	5.9
Holyhead	09.44	5.4	22.03	5.2	Southampton	10.02	4.3	22.27	4.3
Hull (Albert D)	09.35	7.9	17.53	8.2	Swansea	05.24	8.7	17.45	8.8
Ilfracombe	05.12	8.5	17.34	8.5	Tees	-	-	-	-
King's Lynn	05.40	6.0	17.53	6.3	Walton-on-N	11.03	3.8	23.23	3.8

All times GMT. Heights in metres.

Sun rises: 7.53 am
Sun sets: 4.33 pm
Moon sets 6.39 am
Moon rises 3.55 pm
Full moon tomorrow

London 4.33 pm to 7.51 am
Bristol 4.42 pm to 8.01 am
Edinburgh 4.25 pm to 8.23 am
Manchester 4.33 pm to 8.06 am
Penzance 4.59 pm to 8.08 am

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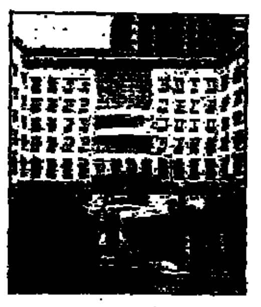

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22 1997

Pension chiefs face PIA grilling

By Marianne Curphey, Insurance Correspondent

INSURANCE companies suspected of dragging their feet over the pensions mis-selling review are being summoned to a series of secret meetings by the Personal Investment Authority (PIA).

The PIA's chief executive, Colette Bowe, has decided to get tough with companies she believes to be the worst offenders and has warned them they must resolve most of their cases by the end of this year.

Among those on the list of interviewees are executives from Prudential, Pearl, Legal & General, TSB, and Co-operative Insurance, firms with the biggest backlog of cases.

However, some industry sources have predicted that many cases will still be outstanding "by the end of the century". The review was launched in 1994.

The meetings began last week and Ms Bowe and the PIA's chairman, Joe Palmer, met executives to discuss ways of clearing the bulk of outstanding cases by December.

They discussed how the review was progressing and what resources were being used to resolve the cases. Ms Bowe is believed to have told firms that if necessary they must double the number of staff assigned to the review. Some have 45 employees involved in researching claims for reinstatement into occupational schemes.

The PIA yesterday declined to comment. Pension companies were supposed to have completed reviews of all top priority cases by December 31 last year.

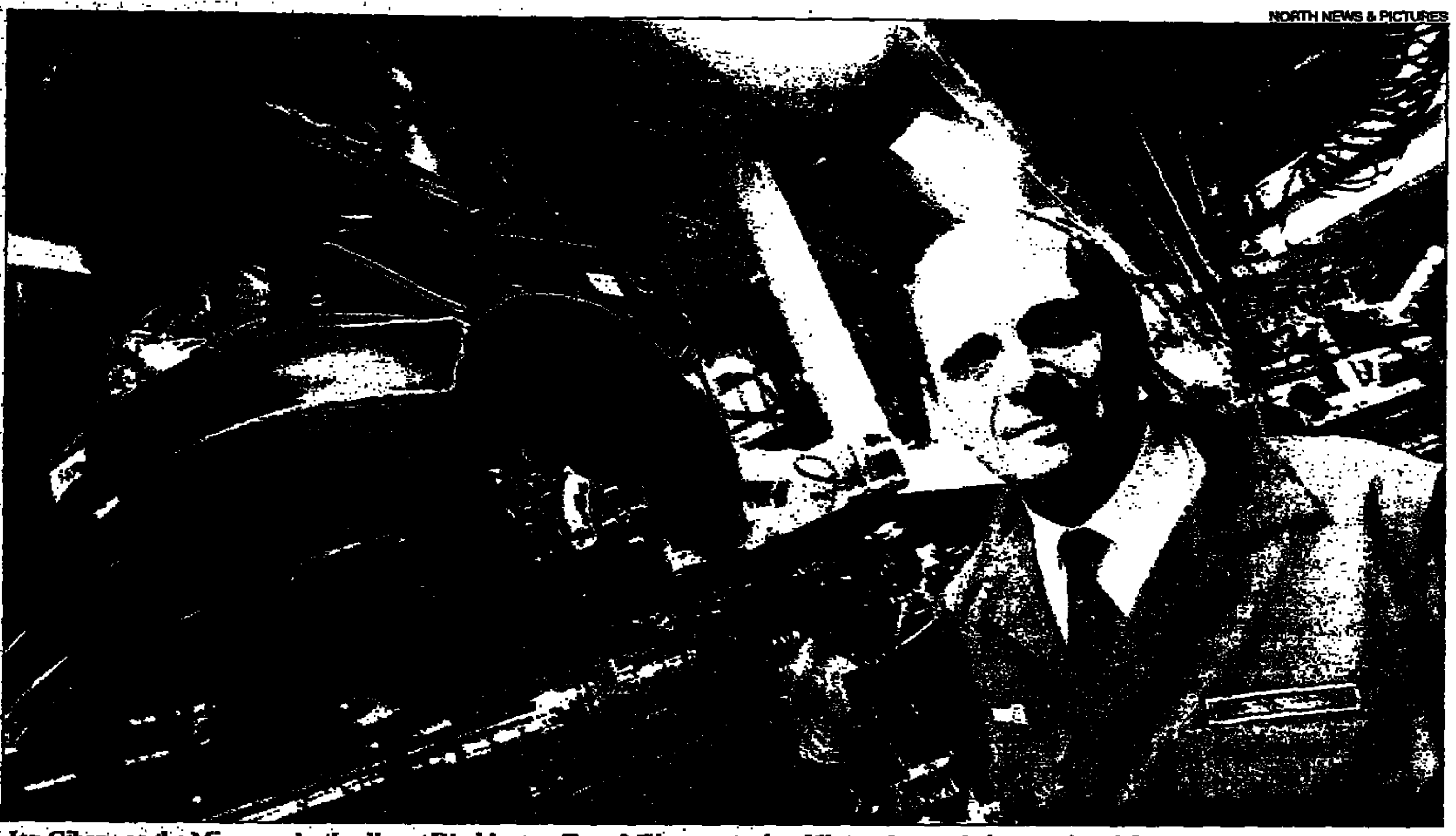
According to PIA figures, only 7,000 out of 58,000 priority cases and an estimated 1.5 million victims nationwide have received compensation.

In November the Securities and Investment Board announced a formula designed to enable compensation to be paid more quickly and reduced the questions an occupational scheme must answer from 200 to eight.

Insurance companies are waiting for clarification from the PIA on the shortened questionnaire. The PIA response is expected within a month.

On Monday it emerged that the Prudentialhad agreed to compensate some of the victims of pensions mis-selling at an estimated cost of £800,000, after reaching an agreement with the GMB union.

NORTH NEWS & PICTURES



Ian Gibson on the Micra production line at Washington, Tyne & Wear, yesterday. His tough negotiating convinced the Japanese to invest in Britain

CBI backs Clarke over base rates — for now

By Philip Bassett and Janet Bush

The Confederation of British Industry said yesterday that the strong pound is hitting industry and exports, and that an interest rate rise is not justified for now.

The Treasury seized on the CBI's quarterly industrial trends survey to justify the Chancellor's decision, in the face of Bank of England advice, to leave base rates on hold. Michael Jack, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said it was clear sterling's recent strength had helped to keep industry cost pressures very subdued.

His comments suggest that the Chancellor is unrepentant about last week's decision and continues to argue that the pound's strength is a powerful deflationary force. This directly contradicts the view expressed on Monday night by Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, that sterling did not directly affect the build-up of domestic demand and that rates should be raised in any case.

Ross Buckland, chief executive of Unigate and a member of the CBI's economic affairs committee, said that sterling's strength was beginning to feed through to manufacturers' export orders: "We say, looking at all the elements, that no interest rate increase is justified at the present time — but I stress at the present time."

CBI leaders accepted that the signals from its survey remained "mixed", and did not resolve entirely the awkward choices facing the Government and Bank over monetary policy.

CBI analysts said: "With the output recovery expected to continue and manufacturers' cost and price pressures encouragingly weak, the decision about raising interest rates is on a knife edge."

The latest survey of more than 1,000 manufacturers, accounting for around half the sector's exports and jobs, showed that export demand had levelled off for the first time for more than three years, largely because of sterling's appreciation.

At the time of the latest survey, sterling was more than 9 per cent higher than at the previous survey last October. "Companies are becoming concerned about the export outlook, and this is reflected in the fall in optimism about export prospects and the rise in the proportion of companies reporting that prices are a constraint on their ability to win export orders," the survey said.

Of less positive reading for the Chancellor were figures suggesting a sharp pick-up in price expectations, although City analysts noted that this probably relates to the fact that many manufacturers revise their list prices at the beginning of each year. A balance of 67 per cent of companies said that prices are now the factor most likely to limit export orders over the next four months. This figure — sharply up from 55 per cent three months ago — was last equalled in October 1989.

Separate figures published yesterday also provided some support for the Chancellor's stance on rates. They show tentative signs that demand for credit in the economy may have started to tail off. The latest figures from building societies showed that, while 1996 as a whole was a robust year for mortgage lending and confirmed that the recovery in the housing market was stronger than expected, mortgage demand appears to have weakened in December.

In addition, lending by British banks to the corporate sector was markedly weaker, and there was a surprising drop in the annual growth rate of M4 broad money supply. M4 fell 0.2 per cent in December, depressing its annual rate to 9.6 per cent, from 10.8 per cent previously.

Pennington, page 27

Deutsche endorses Horlick ban

By Robert Miller, Banking Correspondent

THE heir apparent at Deutsche Bank, the owner of Morgan Grenfell, yesterday gave unequivocal backing to its subsidiary over the high-profile departure of Nicola Horlick.

Rolf Breuer, a main board director of Deutsche who will succeed Hilmar Kopper as head of the bank in May, said: "The facts are clear. Mrs Horlick inflicted damage on the bank with her attempt to poach staff and then resigned." The Frankfurt-based director also sits on the board of Morgan Grenfell.

Mrs Horlick, who was suspended from her job as head of Morgan Grenfell's £18 billion UK pensions business, last week, has denied that she resigned her post.

She said that she would fight for reinstatement or pursue a case for "constructive dismissal" and compensation.

Morgan Grenfell insists that she has resigned and in doing so has given up her right to a 1996 bonus worth up to £500,000 and up to a further £2 million held in a deferred phantom option scheme available to senior directors.

A spokesman said: "Anyone who has left the bank before bonuses are finalised, for whatever reason, forfeits their right to that bonus payment. That is standard City practice."

After a meeting with her lawyers yesterday Mrs Horlick said: "The chances of reinstatement seem slim."

Morgan Grenfell is expected tomorrow to conclude its internal investigation into the alleged attempt by Mrs Horlick to poach staff and take them with her to join ABN Amro, the Dutch bank.

As part of its inquiry, conducted by the personnel department, eight senior figures and former colleagues of Mrs Horlick at Morgan Grenfell have made statements to Fox Williams, the law firm acting for the fund management house.

Top City managers frequently receive approaches or put out feelers themselves.

Some four or five years ago it is understood that Mrs Horlick broke off a family holiday in Ireland to meet Stephen Zimmerman, deputy chairman of Mercury Asset Management, her previous employer, who was on holiday in the south of France.

Nissan UK wins battle for jobs

By Oliver August

NISSAN'S UK managers have won a £215 million battle with their bosses in Japan and secured the creation of thousands of jobs in Britain.

An extra 800 workers will be employed at an existing plant in Sunderland to build a new Nissan model, a mid-sized family car. A further 2,700 jobs will be created at Nissan's supplier base in the area.

The new model has been planned for the last three years and will enter production in 2000. Nissan's head office originally wanted to build it in Japan.

But Ian Gibson, the UK chief executive, convinced Nissan, in "tough" negotiations, that Britain was the production place that would best serve Nissan's global aims. Eighty per cent of the Sunderland output is for export, mostly to Europe but also to Australia.

Within Europe, Britain was the most price-competitive production place, he said. His words were echoed by Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade. He said: "This latest decision by Nissan marks a significant development in their presence in Europe and underlines the attractions of the UK as a place to manufacture."

Mr Gibson praised the productivity and efficiency of the present 4,100 Sunderland workers, who built 231,000 cars last year, as among the highest in the world.

New workers will be recruited in mid-1999 and will receive up to six months' training. Nissan received no Government aid to help to bring the new car to the UK.

The new Nissan will be in direct competition with the Ford Escort, the production of which is to be switched to Germany and Spain with a loss of 1,300 UK jobs.

Pennington, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FTSE 100	4195.5	(+1.5)
Yield	3.72%	
FTSE All share	2065.17	(-0.66)
Nikkei	17358.16	(-122.18)
New York:		
Dow Jones	6868.12	(+24.25)*
S&P Composite	779.91	(+3.21)*
US RATE		
Federal Funds	5¼%*	(unq)
Long Bond	95²¹⁄₃₂*	—
Yield	6.82%*	—
LONDON MONEY		
3-mth Interbank	5¼%	(6⁷⁄₃₂%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	110⁷⁄₈	(110²⁹⁄₃₂)
STERLING		
New York:		
$	1.6627*	(1.6827)
London:		
$	1.6637	(1.6627)
DM	2.7024	(2.7001)
FFr	9.1164	(9.1062)
SFr	2.3533	(2.3471)
Yen	196.08	(195.97)
£ Index	96.9	(96.8)
DOLLAR		
London:		
DM	1.6253*	(1.6265)
FFr	5.4843*	(5.4840)
SFr	1.4165*	(1.4165)
Yen	118.05*	(118.05)
$ Index	100.3	(100.2)
Tokyo close Yen 118.21		
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Apr)	$22.05	($22.15)
GOLD		
London close	$353.65	($353.65)

* denotes midday trading price

Battle

Business leaders gave a guarded welcome to proposals from the Commission on Public Policy to improve the nation's competitiveness. Their response contrasted with the attacks on business figures on the commission by Michael Heseltine.
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Struggle

Somerfield, the supermarkets group that struggled through a difficult flotation last August, matched profit forecasts but still saw its shares fall.
Page 27, Tempus 28

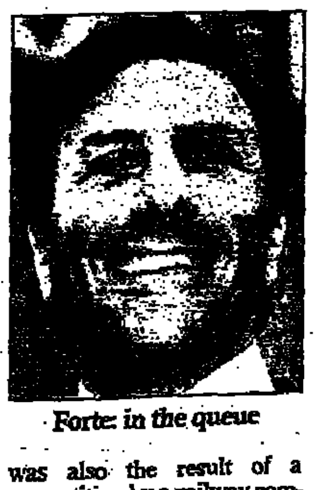
Bids now arriving at St Pancras Chambers

By Carl Mortished

PROPERTY developers and hoteliers are queuing up to bid for St Pancras Chambers, the vast neo-Gothic building fronting St Pancras station in London. Eight groups of developers, including Trevor Osborne, former head of Speyhawk, Sir Rocco Forte, the hotelier, and British Land are proposing to restore the old Victorian lady on the Euston Road to her former glory.

The bidders have been shortlisted by London & Continental Railways, the operator of Eurostar, which is seeking a new role for the Grade I listed building to coincide with the opening of the Channel Tunnel rail link in 2003.

Built as the Midland Grand Hotel between 1868 and 1873, the building was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott and was also the result of a competition by a railway company seeking a prestigious terminal hotel. The hotel closed in 1935 and the grand staircase and decorative ceilings made a glamorous home for British Rail offices until the 1960s when it failed to secure a fire certificate.



Forte: in the queue

The proposals submitted include a mix of hotel, retail catering and housing uses. Stephen Jordan, managing director of the LCR property division, said the company will be spending hundreds of millions on the Eurostar concourse and wanted a glamorous development to front the station. Mr Jordan said the 600-room hotel needed new infrastructure. "In the old days, a chambermaid brought you a ewer of hot water. Today people expect hot running water."

Sir Rocco and Mr Osborne are joining forces in the Midland Hotel Group. Other bidders include Bouygues, the French construction company; Lynton; and a consortium including Sir Robert McAlpine and Whitbread.

LCR intends to retain a long-term interest in the redeveloped St Pancras Chambers.

Abbey's early move in fight for new savers

ABBEY NATIONAL has thrown the first punch in the battle for the estimated £20 billion to be released in to the economy this year from the flotations of building societies and life insurance companies (Caroline Merrell writes).

The bank has lifted savings rates by up to 0.75 per cent to woo millions of savers looking forward to payouts averaging £1,100 as the Halifax, Alliance & Leicester, Woolwich, Bristol & West, Northern Rock and Norwich Union convert.

The biggest increases are bestowed on savers with a lot to invest and who keep it with the society for a long time.

The Abbey saw big savings outflows immediately after it took over the National & Provincial last year. Around £600 million was moved out as former N & P members moved their savings to societies offering higher interest.

Millwall set for administration

By Jason Nissé

MILLWALL will be placed in administration today, becoming the first quoted football club to collapse.

David Buchler, an accountant who is also chairman of Barnet Football Club, is to become the administrator of Millwall, which was relegated to the Nationwide Second Division in the summer and has £10 million of debts and is losing £3 million a year.

Mr Buchler aims to cut costs, which will include pruning the 44-strong playing staff, and come to a deal with creditors, led by NatWest Bank.

That will allow Millwall to come out of administration before the end of the season. Meanwhile, the club will continue playing in the league.

Townsley & Co, Millwall's financial adviser, has said it is willing to back a rescue share issue, raising £6 million. Millwall shares were suspended at 4p yesterday. It was only the second club to be floated, joining the Unlisted Securities Market in 1989. It has had a full listing since 1994. At its peak the club was valued at £60 million.

A consortium led by Nigel Wray, which is planning to inject up to £15 million into Nottingham Forest, has told the directors that it is unhappy about the date set for a shareholders' meeting to approve the deal.

Forest is planning to hold the meeting on February 24, but the Wray document clearly states the offer will lapse on February 13.

The Wray team can extend the offer, but it is threatening to pull out unless Forest brings the date forward.

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Peps and pensions boost GA

Sales of personal equity plans and unit trusts proved a huge boost to General Accident's new business growth for 1996.

They added a further £33.6 million to single premium business during the year, compared with £3.3 million in 1995, bringing the total premium income to £1.1 billion. New annualised premium income rose 40 per cent to £184.4 million.

Pensions business also grew strongly, with new annualised premium income at £86.9 million, compared with £29.9 million the previous year. Total premium income for pensions was £453.4 million compared with £220.3 million in 1995.

☐ Friends Provident announced that its total new business last year more than doubled from £579 million to £1.2 billion.

New life, pensions and unit trust single premiums were up 68 per cent from £371 million to £625 million. New life, pensions and unit trust annual premiums were up 3.5 per cent from £85 million to £88 million.

BCI to buy

Blue Circle Industries, the cement and consumer products company, is negotiating the purchase of St Marys Cement Corporation (SMCC), a private Canadian company, for an undisclosed sum.

SMCC has a strong position in the Ontario market, including aggregates and concrete businesses, and a distribution network around the Great Lakes.

Board moves

Compass Group, the contract catering company, is promoting Roger Matthews, 42, from group finance director to group managing director, while Andrew Lynch, 40, will replace Mr Matthews as group finance director.

Daejan same

Daejan Holdings, the property company, is holding the interim dividend at 16p a share after reporting pre-tax profits little changed at £10.9 million (£10.4 million) for the six months to September 30.

Guarded welcome by business for proposals on competition

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BUSINESS leaders have cautiously welcomed proposals from key industrialists to improve Britain's competitiveness.

Their response to the recommendations from the Commission on Public Policy and British business contrasted sharply with attacks on business figures on the commission by Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister.

Britain's main business bodies gave careful consideration to the commission's report, *Promoting Prosperity*. While they did not necessarily agree with all its analysis or recommendations, their examination of it was in line with the view of Sir Ronnie Hampel, chairman of ICI and head of the Stock Exchange's inquiry into corporate governance, who said it was "a stimulating report worthy of wide debate".

Adair Turner, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, said the report was valuable and comprehensive although he emphasised that the CBI did not agree with all of its detailed recommendations. He said the study illustrated the high degree of consensus increasingly emerging as to the levers of national economic improvement. What was impressive about the report, he said, was that it provided a definition of the philosophy of that consensus.

Business leaders were uneasy about the commission's recommendations for a minimum wage and ending Britain's opt-out from the social chapter. They were also divided about its proposal to join a single European currency.

Tim Melville-Ross, Director-General of the Institute of Directors, welcomed the commission's efforts in addressing the issue of competitiveness although he made it clear that he disagreed with much of what it proposed.

He rejected the commission's emphasis on the pervasiveness of short-termism in the corporate culture, but said there was something to be said for its proposal for clarifying directors' duties in law.

Sir Micheal Perry, chairman of Unilever, emphasised his own disagreements with some policy conclusions, but said the commission was right to underline the importance of wealth generation. George Simpson, managing director of GEC and a commission member, said: "I firmly believe that we have to get the relationship between business and government right — whoever is in office."

Alec Reed, chairman of Reed, the personnel company, said at the launch conference that as a businessman he had been a Conservative voter for 15 years, but at the coming election would be supporting Labour.

Leading article, page 17

Nynex denies merger snags

By Oliver August

NYNEX CableComms, the television and telephony operator, yesterday denied the £13 billion merger with Cable and Wireless and Bell Canada International has hit problems. John Killian, executive president of its UK subsidiary, countered suggestions that the deal had been arranged hastily, saying: "The merger is not at all creating a problem within Nynex."

The newly merged company, which will dominate cable operations in Britain, is expected to deliver multimedia facilitites from shopping to banking into every home via a fibre-optic network. The deal was put together in a few weeks last autumn. Offer documents will be sent to the three companies' shareholders in the spring.

Mr Killian said: "When you put three parent companies together it will be very complex. There is a lot of complexity. But I believe there are benefits to consolidation in marketing and efficiency."

He refused to be drawn on his future career at Nynex but said he wanted to remain with Nynex rather than switch to the merged C&W. According to industry speculation he is planning a move to America.

Fourth quarter operating statistics and full-year results, published yesterday, showed a fall in pre-tax losses from £46.7 million to £5.6 million. Total revenue increased by 78 per cent to £151 million.

PETER TRIEVNOR

Nicholas Mearing-Smith, chief financial officer, left, and John Killian see few problems

Boeing grounds stretch jumbo

By Oliver August

BOEING, the world's leading aviation group, has halted plans for a new 550-seat aircraft.

Instead of stretching the 747, Boeing will attempt to develop new long-range versions of its 767 and 777 twinjets, which are better suited to the aviation needs of the next century, the group said.

In the future there will be no dramatic increase in traffic from hub to hub, it said. Instead, more passengers will want to go from their nearest airport directly to their final destination.

Smaller aircraft with the range of a superjumbo will allow airlines to establish less frequented routes such as Manchester to Singapore and Birmingham to Atlanta.

After three years of research Boeing said it would have had to spend $7 billion to develop the superjumbo. As airlines, including British Airways, had failed to sign launch orders for the 747-X, the risk was deemed to be too great. Most of the 1,000 people working on the stretch programme will be switched to new 767 and 777 models.

Airbus, however, insisted it will press ahead with plans to build a superjumbo, dubbed the A3-XX, by 2003. It will be capable of carrying up to 800 people and Airbus estimates the cost at $7 billion. Analysts have expressed doubt that Airbus would be able to raise the funding necessary and they put the cost at closer to $15 billion.

☐ British Aerospace is investing £25 million at its Broughton factory near Chester, where it manufactures wings for Airbus. The investment will create 100 jobs and safeguard a further 60. It is likely a further £20 million will be invested later.

DTI blocks French move on Mid Kent

MID KENT Holdings, the water company serving parts of Kent and East Sussex, was celebrating victory after a hostile approach by its two French-owned neighbours, Saur and General Utilities, was blocked by the Department of Trade and Industry (Christine Buckley writes).

Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, accepted the findings of an inquiry by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) into the proposed bid that found any merger would be against the public interest.

If successful, Mid Kent would have been divided between the two. Mr Lang said that the proposed bid had been stopped to maintain regulatory comparisons in the water industry.

He said that comparisons by the regulator between companies helped to put downward pressure on prices and encourage efficiencies.

The MMC had said that the regulator would lose such comparative methods with the takeover of Mid Kent by General Utilities, a division of Générale des Eaux and Saur. It also raised concerns that local competition would be lost.

The French companies said they were disappointed and that there was a compelling environmental and commercial rationale to their proposals given the state of water resources in the region.

The action by the DTI raises doubts about the chance of further takeovers in the water industry. Shares of Mid Kent dropped 62½p to 572½p. The company is capitalised at about £100 million.

Pennington, page 27

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Britannia suspends savings account

THE Britannia Building Society yesterday closed its most popular instant access account to new investors but denied the move was a prelude to a takeover or a decision to abandon its mutual status. The society, the sixth largest, said that account openings had been running at 10 times the normal rate, after speculation over its future. The Britannia has been seen as a likely candidate for a merger, with societies such as the Bradford & Bingley tipped as possible partners.

John Heaps, chief executive of the Britannia, said that the society had no intention of following the Halifax and Woolwich building societies to the stock market. He said: "We have said repeatedly, and I say again, Britannia will not convert and there is no windfall in prospect." The suspension of the Flexible Savings Account, which has an investing minimum of £500, comes a day after the Britannia revealed that it would be transferring its 100,000 current account holders to the Co-operative Bank.

Panther pact over Edit

PANTHER SECURITIES, the firm aiming to oust the board of the Exmoor Dual Investment Trust (Edit) at an extraordinary meeting on February 3, has promised shareholders that it will vote for final dividends to be paid. Panther blocked the payment at an agm last year but wants shareholders to vote against the board's proposals to liquidate the fund. In a letter to shareholders Panther says Edit's record has been abysmal, achieving only a 3.3 per cent growth in net asset value in seven years.

600 Group shares fall

SHARES of 600 Group fell 55p to 143½p yesterday after the engineering group gave warning that full-year profits would fall short of City expectations. The company blamed weak demand for machine tools in the UK in the summer, which had continued into the final quarter. The effect was compounded by the high level of stocks built up in anticipation of the normal rise in activity in the second half of the year. The company said that although excess stocks have been reduced, demand was unlikely to recover until next year. **Tempus, page 28**

First reading for Bill

A BILL designed to ensure sick and disabled savers receive windfall payments from building societies is to get its first reading today. Douglas French, Conservative MP for Gloucester, wants to give statutory protection to those who have accounts held in trust, including the sick, the disabled, children and charities. Many such savers are at present being excluded from flotation or conversion windfalls. The legislation would not be retrospective, so the Woolwich, Alliance & Leicester and Halifax flotations would not be affected.

Internet banking service

ROYAL Bank OF SCOTLAND is to provide a full Internet banking service to its customers from the spring. The bank's online facilities will include access to statements from the previous six months, transfer of transaction details to personal finance software and electronic settlement of bills issued by 750 companies. Customers will also be able to view or change standing orders and direct debits and transfer money between Royal Bank accounts.

Austin Reed sales rise

AUSTIN REED, the clothing retailer, enjoyed a 10 per cent jump in sales in the run-up to Christmas and said that margins on its women's wear have recovered after a setback in the division last year. The company said that its Chester Barrie menswear label performed particularly strongly in the US, but the Austin Reed wholesale business in mainland Europe continued to trade at depressed levels. It was still seeing a lack of consumer confidence and spending in key markets. The shares rose 11p, to 212½p.

Barbour Index rises

BARBOUR INDEX, the supplier of specialist information services, has increased the interim dividend by 5 per cent to 3.15p a share. The rise comes after Barbour achieved a 21 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £1.9 million, from £1.57 million, in the half year to October 31, on turnover that rose to £7.25 million, from £6.59 million. Earnings were 7.5p a share, from 6.2p last time. Net cash was unchanged at £4 million. Katherine Tickle has been appointed the company's managing director.

Litten Tree pubs to grow

SURREY FREE INNS, the retail pub company, intends to open around ten new Litten Tree branded pubs a year. It is planning to open four further Litten Trees in the second half of the year, taking the total estate to 11. Tony Hill, managing director, said the company could fund the expansion plans from existing resources. In the half year to November 17 the company lifted pre-tax profits 72 per cent to £1.04 million. Overall turnover rose 19 per cent to £7 million. Earnings were 8.6p a share (6p). The interim dividend is 1.25p a share (1p).

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
HOSKINS HEALTHCARE LIMITED
formerly M P T (HEALTHCARE) LIMITED
(In creditors' voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that Lynn Robert Bailey of Temple Court, 35 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6JT and John Stefan Wheatley of 2 Cornwall Street, Birmingham B3 2DL were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named Company on 19 December 1996 by The Creditors.

In order to formally establish the claims of creditors against the Company notice is also hereby given that the creditors of the Company are required on or before 14 March 1997 to send in writing their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to Lynn Robert Bailey of Temple Court, 35 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6JT, the Joint Liquidators of the said Company.

If so required by notice in writing from the said Joint Liquidators, such creditors, either personally or by their Solicitors shall attend at such time and place as shall be specified by the Joint Liquidators to prove their debts and claims. In default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved. A proof of debt is a document stating the amount of the creditor's claim and (subject to Rule 4.76 of the Insolvency Rules 1986) may be in any form.

Dated January 16 1997

Lynn Robert Bailey and John Stefan Wheatley, Joint Liquidators

The Insolvency Act 1986
FAMOUS FRANCHISES PLC AND STARPULSE LIMITED
(T/A STARLOG)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of Creditors of the above named Companies will be held at 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6SD on the 28th January 1997 at 10.30am and 11.30am respectively for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986 namely:- (1) To consider the Directors Statement of Affairs (2) To appoint a Liquidator (3) If thought fit, to establish a Liquidation Committee (4) To consider the basis upon which the Liquidator's remuneration be fixed (5) To consider the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and of convening the meeting.

Creditors wishing to vote at the meetings (unless attending in person) must lodge a proxy at 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6SD not later than noon on 27th January 1997.

A list of names and addresses of the Companies creditors may be inspected free of charge at Gibson Hewitt & Co, 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6SD between 10.00am and 5.00pm during the two days next before the meetings.

Dated this 15th day of January 1997

By Order of the Board
SARAH OVERTON, Director

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF LEYLAND DAF LEASING (NO 2) LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)

On 24 December 1996 the company [illegible]

ASTUCES LIMITED (UNDER COMPANY VOLUNTARY ARRANGEMENT) [illegible]

IN THE MATTER OF WADE ADAMS CONSTRUCTION LIMITED [illegible]

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: Charity Aid (UK) Ltd [illegible]

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY [illegible]

TRUSTEE ACTS

[illegible]

Treasury moves to cut PFI work costs

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday moved to reduce the substantial legal and administrative costs to business of taking on Private Finance Initiative work.

But the new guidelines for the PFI, the Government's move to bring commercial cash into public infrastructure, still fall short of meeting industry's hopes for a standard contract. The latest efforts to smooth the operation of PFI follow a joint drive to cut red tape launched last autumn by Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Confederation of British Industry.

Yesterday Michael Jack, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said the new measures to introduce more standardisation in contracts had been sculpted in response to "anecdotal" evidence from business that PFI was costing them more than previous methods of tendering for such work. Neither he nor the CBI could put a figure on the costs to business of PFI contracts.

Mr Jack said: "We listen. We learn. We take action. PFI is a revolution sweeping through the whole of the public sector. This latest guidance is another clear illustration that we will not sit back and admire the successs of last year." The Treasury said nearly £7.5 billion of deals had been done under the PFI, with a £14 billion target for the current period.

Private home orders up 34%

A FURTHER spur was given to housing market optimists yesterday from Department of the Environment statistics showing private housing orders 34 per cent higher at the end of 1996, and recording its best year since 1989 (Christine Buckley writes).

Overall, the volume of new construction orders rose to their highest point for nearly a year.

The jump in private housing new orders was at odds with a sharp drop in public housing and housing association orders, 25 per cent lower in the latest quarter on record compared with the previous three months, and 16 per cent lower than the same period in 1995.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.23	2.07
Austria Sch	19.95	18.45
Belgium Fr	58.53	54.23
Canada $	2.329	2.169
Cyprus Cyp£	0.839	0.784
Denmark Kr	10.85	10.05
Finland Mkk	8.45	7.80
France Fr	9.51	8.86
Germany Dm	2.85	2.64
Greece Dr	437	412
Hong Kong $	13.50	12.50
Iceland	120	100
Ireland Pt	1.08	1.00
Israel Shk	5.75	5.10
Italy Lira	2728	2571
Japan Yen	210.50	194.50
Malta	0.655	0.600
Netherlds Gld	3.178	2.948
New Zealand $	2.50	2.28
Norway Kr	11.17	10.37
Portugal Esc	279.50	261.00
S Africa Rd	8.30	7.50
Spain Pta	232.50	219.50
Sweden Kr	12.39	11.59
Switzerland Fr	2.48	2.30
Turkey Lira	196300	184300
USA $	1.761	1.631

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

DAEJAN HOLDINGS
P.L.C.

INTERIM STATEMENT

Results for the half year ended 30 September 1996 – unaudited.

	6 months to 30.9.96 £'000	6 months to 30.9.95 £'000
Net Rental Income	13,498	11,179
Surplus on Sale of Trading Properties	3,382	1,934
Other Income	16	45
	16,896	13,158
Administration & Other Expenses	(2,489)	(2,119)
Operating Profit from Continuing Operations	14,407	11,039
Surplus on Sale of Investment Properties	609	518
Net Interest Payable	(4,057)	(1,139)
Profit on Ordinary Activities before Taxation	10,959	10,418
Less: Taxation	(3,600)	(3,410)
Minority Interests	(14)	(22)
Profit attributable to shareholders	£7,345	£6,986
Earnings Per Share	45.1p	42.9p

An Interim Dividend of 16p per share (1995 – 16p) will be paid on 14 March 1997 to shareholders registered on 18 February 1997. This dividend will absorb £2,607,000 (1995 – £2,607,000).

The increase in net rental income arises from the major portfolio acquisition, completion of which took place in March. The surplus on sales of trading properties reflects the returning strength of the residential sales market.

It is anticipated that the Profit after Taxation for the full year will be similar to that for the year to 31 March 1996.

The financial information included in this document does not comprise statutory accounts within the meaning of Section 240 of the Companies Act 1985. The statutory accounts for the year to 31 March 1996, on which the auditors have given an unqualified opinion, have been filed with the Registrar of Companies. The interim financial information is unaudited.

هكذا من الأصل

☐ Why the Japanese plumped for Wearside ☐ Black arts of the financial manipulators ☐ Basic disagreement on base rates

Nissan's economical little runner

☐ ONE car plant shuts, another *car plant opens.* It is tempting to see the decision by the Japanese to increase production on Wearside days after the Americans said that they were pulling *out of Merseyside* as a vote of confidence for the first region and a black mark for the second, and several voices speaking with strong Geordie accents were heard doing just that yesterday.

Tempting, but wrong. The Halewood-Sunderland divide has more to do with the realities of an open labour market and the relative *strengths* of the Nissan and Ford brands. It is a demonstration that, hopefully, will not be lost on those currently *posturing* and scoring cheap political points on Britain's economic competitiveness.

Halewood was built in the wrong place for all the wrong reasons, the last gasp of an outmoded policy of directed regional investment and hang the economic realities that no political party still subscribes to. Ford never wanted to be there, and when the knife had to be taken to European car production, there was no comparison between Halewood *and more* modern plants in Valencia, Spain, and Saarlouis, western Germany, to which work on the *Escort is being transferred.*

Ford's decision was undoubtedly made easier because British workers tend to be cheaper to sack than their continental counterparts. The corollary is that they are more attractive to hire in the first place, which helps to explain Nissan's position.

The Japanese had three options. They could have stepped up production on their home turf, but this would have denied them entry to the single European market and whatever sort of monetary union exists once *hiring starts in 1999.*

They could have spent billions creating a new plant for their mid-market model elsewhere in Europe, but risk being left, in a few years, in the same position as Ford — forced to choose between the Continent and an existing *British plant, except that Sunderland would even then have been* more attractive than Halewood. Or they could have geared up, at minimal expense, in the North *East, safe in the knowledge that* the costs of reversing that decision would be limited.

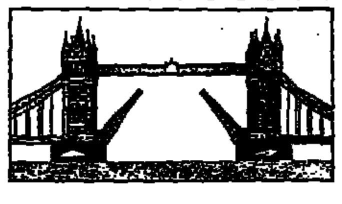
We are often told, and this line was on offer again yesterday, *that efficiency in the British car* industry is the rival of anywhere in the world. But production costs are a cocktail of wages, social costs, exchange rates and the age of the plant. They are not fixed, and the elements trade off against each other. High wages *means low investment*, which means clapped-out plant, possibly exporting against unfavourable exchange rates.

There is really only one choice: insecurity in return for jobs now, or a refusal to accept any reduction of your existing industrial base but little growth by inward investment. Those in any doubt which is preferable might consider the state of the German labour market.

Countering the spin from City's PR

☐ IT IS a frightening thought that the destiny of a huge company can be decided by the votes of a dozen City fund managers. It is even more frightening that their votes might have been influenced by public relations advisers.

PENNINGTON



One of the least impressive trends of the past decade or so in the City has been the rise of the corporate spin doctor. Time was, they could be relied upon to pour the gin and tonics before lunch and retire to a quiet corner until their services were needed again. These days no one drinks gin *and tonic, and they have pro*gressed to a seat at the top table.

There is a groundswell of opinion building in the City *about their role, and it is not a* favourable one. PR firms' main function is to put ideas into the popular consciousness, through *informal chats with the press or* brokers' analysts, that avoid the normal means of communication, the official announcement through the Stock Exchange.

This practice has one great advantage: deniability. The conversations never took place. It has one great disadvantage: *it is against the rules.* The Takeover Panel's code mentions PR firms, and forbids the informal dissemination of important infor*mation. Some have been caught* at it, and reprimanded.

It is hard to explain the rise of the financial PR firm. Takeover *bids are perhaps more sensitive* matters today than they were a couple of decades ago — think of the public fuss over the Forte/Granada bid. Public perception of a *corporate strategy can make* or break it — look at Brent Spar.

The PR practitioners are, in many cases, more skilled and *better paid than those they try to* manipulate, and the information available may be more useful and accurate than once it was. *But in a takeover bid they may* also be on a huge, million pound-plus success fee, which does nothing for their objectivity.

There are moves to impose on the PR industry a formal code of conduct. This is probably fruitless, an attempt to regulate those whose whole purpose is the *circumvention of the existing* rules. All one can hope for is that those 12 fund managers whose *decisions count, when they dine* with the PR industry, take with them a long spoon.

Great minds on collision course

☐ WE are at one of those points *when the Chancellor of the* Exchequer disagrees with the advice of the Bank of England, and both views are irreconcilable. The first believes sterling's *rise* is deflationary and that a rise in interest rates is not needed, the second that the exchange rate does not necessar*ily impinge on consumer de*mand, which is too strong, and that interest rates must rise. The fact that the argument is prob*ably over a quarter point on rates* hardly make it any less fun.

Since Mr Clarke first started having monthly *têtes-a-têtes with Eddie George, he has* delighted in defying the Bank but never for long. In the autumn, he held out for a mere month. This time *is different*; an *election* is weeks away. The Chancellor already knows that he will not keep inflation on target and that Labour will make some small capital out of it.

A decision could be needed as soon as next *Monday's fourth*-quarter GDP figures, if these are stronger than expected. But playing the iron Chancellor may not be the ideal role for a political Chancellor. Look how *smartly* Mr Clarke moved to rubbish Gordon Brown's big speech on tax. Is he really going to launch another *pre-emptive strike* against inflation just so Mr Brown meets the target in two years' time, while hobbling his *own re-election chances by trig*gering more mortgage rate rises?

Homing predictions

☐ OF THIS column's 16 predictions at the start of 1997, one came true within days and two more arrived yesterday. A football club ran *into* financial trouble, and an inconsistent Ian Lang confounded the market. The takeover of *Mid Kent Water was blocked to prevent the loss of* comparators used by the industry regulator to measure relative performance. Yet at the *last count there were more than* 20 such surviving in the water sector. Meanwhile, the electricity industry has almost disappeared, subsumed into larger *groups until only* two independent companies are left.

Greenspan hints at modest rates rise

From Tim Hames in Washington

ALAN GREENSPAN, the Federal Reserve chairman, offered an upbeat assessment of the US economy in testimony to the *Senate Budget Committee* yesterday, but hinted that interest rates may rise over coming months.

In reviewing the economy's performance in *1996*, Mr Greenspan noted that a growth rate of 3 per cent had been achieved without igniting significant inflationary pressures. *However, he noted that the crucial question now was* whether prospective labour market conditions would be consistent with continued satisfactory price performance.

The tone of his remarks suggested that he was far from convinced that *stable* inflation could be maintained without some increase in rates. However, any rise seems likely to be modest in scale and *to* come after the March meeting of the Federal Reserve.

Mr Greenspan described the performance of the American stock market as "breathtaking", although he fell short of the implicit criticism of market trends that *prompted* a sharp if temporary downturn across global financial markets last December. He also used the opportunity *to strongly* support the work of the Boskin Commission, which has argued that the Consumer Price Index sig*nificantly overstates* the real rate of price increases.

BBC chief nets £3m in takeover of Life Sciences

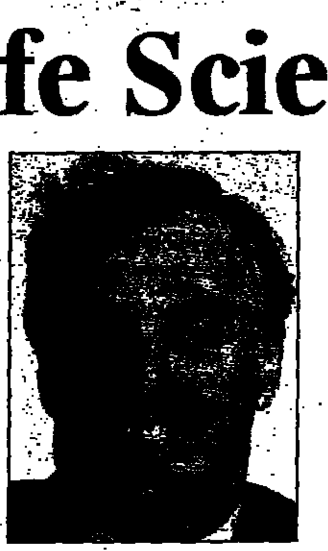
By Paul Durman

SIR Christopher Bland, chairman of the BBC, added another £3 million to his fortune yesterday when Life Sciences International, the laboratory equipment company, agreed to a £235.9 million takeover.

Sir Christopher, *who made* £14 million from Granada's takeover of London Weekend Television, acquired an interest in the company that became *Life Sciences nearly ten years ago.* The company expanded through acquisitions, but ran into difficulties in 1995 when a profits setback caused a *sharp fall in the share price.*

Life Sciences is being acquired by Thermo Instrument Systems, an American company that bought the scientific *instruments division of Fisons* for £123 million last year.

Thermo is offering 135p a share, 46 per cent above the price of Life Sciences shares before the *offer. Shareholders* will also receive a second interim dividend of 3p a share.



Bland: expected to go

Life Sciences said that Sir Christopher would make a profit of £1.3 million above the *cost of his holding.* He is expected to leave the company when the deal is completed. The rest of the board — including Simon Constantine *and Andrew Bebbington*, Sir Christopher's colleagues in the 1987 management buy-in — will share a £2.1 million profit on holdings worth £3.4 *million.*

Although Thermo's offer is at a higher price than Life Sciences' shares have seen for more than a year, it is a *long way short of the 178p peak they* reached in 1993.

Riccardo Pigliucci, chief executive of Life Sciences, said that to match the Thermo offer, *the company's share* price would have to double in two years, taking account of interest and the second interim dividend. He said: "It's do*able but there's a risk.* When you look at the risk-reward relationship, it's a good deal for shareholders."

Life Sciences said that it *expected its 1996 pre-tax prof*its to be about £27 million, up from £24 million in 1995. However, the £7 million cost of reorganisation and other *one-offs* would reduce the total to £23.7 million.

Thermo is a separately listed subsidiary of Thermo Electron Corporation. *It* has annual sales of about $1.2 billion and a market value of $3.2 billion.

Thermo has agreed termination *packages with* Mr Pigliucci and the other executive directors, together worth about £1.4 million.

Tempus, page 28

Littlewoods to take Vert stake

LITTLEWOODS has agreed to buy a *29.9* per stake in *Jacques Vert, the struggling* women's wear group. (Sarah Cunningham writes). Following the £2.7 million investment, the two companies aim *to develop a new niche home*-shopping catalogue.

Littlewoods is fast expanding its mail-order business. Last week *it* said that it had *conditionally* agreed *to* pay £395 million to buy the Freemans mail order business from Sears. Littlewoods said the Jacques Vert catalogue *should be launched next year.*

Jacques Vert yesterday reported that it had lost £4.8 million before tax in the six months to November 2.

The company is also planning a five-for-four placing and open offer at 30p per share to raise £3.6 million. Its banks have agreed to a £4 million loan and £3.5 million overdraft facility.

Shandwick plans one-stop PR shop

By Alasdair Murray

SHANDWICK *International*, the public relations company, aims to expand its global operations by offering international companies a one-stop *shop for their PR needs.*

Dermot McNulty, chief executive, said accounts already won for Digital and Mastercard were worth about £3 *million. Shandwick achieved* a 20 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, excluding exceptional items, to £9.2 million in the *year to the end of October.* Operating *revenue* increased 12.5 per cent to £122 million, with continuing income growing 13.7 per cent. But margins *slipped to 11.8 per cent from 11.9 per cent.*

New clients in America included McCain Foods and Symnatec Corporation, help*ing US profits to rise 15 per* cent to £8.6 million.

McNulty: profit up 20%

UK operating income rose 6 per cent to £26 million, with operating profit up 3 per cent *to £3.7 million.* New clients included Marks & Spencer.

Total dividend was increased by 10 per cent to 1.43p with a 1p final on April 18.

Tempus, page 28
PR worries, page 29

Hall wants £27.5m for joint deal

HALL ENGINEERING, the *automotive and wire products* company, is to raise £27.5 million from a one-for-four rights issue at 250p (Martin Barrow writes).

The cash call will provide funding for a new joint venture, announced yesterday, between Stadco Pressings, a Hall subsidiary, and Takao *Kinzoku Kogyo, a Japanese* designer and manufacturer of vehicle body shells. The joint venture — in which Hall will have a 65 per cent interest — *will manufacture* car body components for Honda and other carmakers. A new plant will be built on a greenfield site in the South Midlands.

Capital expenditure of about £17.5 million over the next two years is expected. The joint venture will borrow £7 million, with Hall and Takao providing the balance. The investment is expected to earn a profit from 2000.

Somerfield sales struggle

SOMERFIELD, the supermarkets group that struggled through a flotation last August, delivered interim profits *in line with expectations yes*terday, but watched its shares fall 5½p to 168½p as the City remained sceptical about growth (Sarah Cunningham writes).

Pre-tax profits rose to £54.6 million from £43 million in the six months to November 9. However, group sales were up only 1.3 per cent and 1.2 per cent *in the first nine weeks of* the second half, which included Christmas. The disappointment with the sales growth, the bulk of which came from the stores *most* recently converted from Gateway into Somerfield, led to a raft of forecast downgrades from analysts. James Capel cut its full-year estimate from £105 million to £100 million. *UBS moved down from* £104 million to £100 million and took the stock off its buy list.

The company is to pay a 3.4p interim on *pro-forma earnings per share* of 13p, payable March 27.

Tempus, page 28

Triplex lifts Cook offer to £72.8m

By Fraser Nelson

TRIPLEX LLOYD, the specialist engineering company, yesterday increased its hostile takeover bid for William Cook to £72.8 million, from £56 million.

The final *cash-and-shares* offer values Triplex shares at 389p each, compared with the 238p they stood at before the takeover battle began. There is a full cash alternative of 383p a share.

Andrew Cook, chairman of William Cook, said the revised bid still undervalues his company and *added he had seen nothing* to alter his view that a merger had no industrial logic. Mr Cook said: "Triplex's offer may no longer be ludicrously low, *but it remains manifestly* low. Their assertions that 'it's all metal and sand' demonstrate their utter ignorance of the truly different nature of the *Triplex Lloyd* and William Cook businesses."

Triplex says the enlarged company would enjoy additional *operating profits* of £2.5 million a year. It said it has already received interest from its own clients in buying William Cook's products, *should the takeover succeed.*

Triplex's share price fell 11p to 192½p yesterday, effectively lowering the value of its paper bid for Cook by £2.13 million.

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THE TIMES

Which Independent School?

See "Boarding Schools '97" on Friday January 24th, only in The Times.

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☑ [illegible] ☑ [illegible]

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Douglas, Isle of Man, IM99 1RY
004

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هكذا من الأصل

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Shares resume rise on Greenspan's softer line

SOOTHING words on the US economy from Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, injected investors with a new lease of life on both sides of the Atlantic last night.

In his testimony to the Senate Budget Committee he painted a rosy picture of a vigorous US economy with few signs of inflation. It seemed to be in complete contrast to his comments of little over a month ago when he left world markets reeling after comments about their "irrational exuberance".

But his latest comments were just what investors wanted to hear. The Dow Jones industrial average climbed more than 50 points after his speech, while in London the FT-SE 100 index put in a late rally. It clawed back an initial 26-point fall to close 1.5 up at 4,195.5. Turnover reached a healthy 874 million shares.

Among leaders **Thorn** continued to hit new lows with a fall of 9½p at 199½p in the wake of Monday's profits warning. The group complained about the effect the strong pound was having on business and said that profits for the full year were unlikely to show much improvement on last year's £170 million. Thorn was demerged from EMI in August of last year at 400p. Brokers are now worried about a possible cut in the dividend if there is a further deterioration in business.

LucasVarity was the beneficiary of a small, mixed programme trade valued at around £40 million. It firmed 1½p to 220p as one institution decided the shares were a buy. **BOC Group** jumped 24½p to 920p in response to talk of a "buy" recommendation from SBC Warburg, the broker.

Heavy turnover was reported in **Coats Viyella** with almost seven million shares changing hands as the price retreated 2½p to 135½p. The price fell from a peak of 207p last year after a profits warning. But some brokers say the shares, which yield around 8 per cent, have been oversold.

There was further selective support for the banks after recent profit-taking with **Barclays** firming 6p to £11.09½, **Lloyds TSB** 2½p at 459p, and **Royal Bank of Scotland** 7p at 578½.

Shares of **Millwall** were suspended at 4p pending clarification of the company's financial position. Before a halt was called to trading almost one million shares had changed hands amid whispers that a bid was on the way. Last night, as traders were calculating the cost of reacting to bad information, it emerged that details of a cash injection were being thrashed out. Word is that Peter Mead of Abbott Mead Vickers fame wants to inject around £6 million into the south London football club via a heavily discounted rights issue at 1p a share. He may decide to take up a large part of the issue.

The news dragged the other quoted football clubs lower. **Manchester United** fell 4½p to 717½, **Sunderland** 5½p to 752½p, **Tottenham Hotspur** 5p to 667½p, **Southampton Leisure** 5p to 146½p, and **Sheffield United** 6p to 102½p.

David Simons, left, and Martin Gatto of Somerfield, whose shares fell 5½p despite meeting half-year profit forecasts

Shares in the **600 Group** plunged 55p to 144½p after it warned that profits for the current year were unlikely to match market expectations. It blamed a slump in demand for machine tools and excess stock levels. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, was among a number to respond by reducing its forecast by £3 million to £11 million. A total of 2.7 million shares were traded.

Somerfield failed to respond to a maiden set of half-year figures in line with brokers' forecasts with the price finishing 5½p lower at 168½p. The old Gateway supermarket chain, which joined the stock market last July and is headed by David Simons, chief executive, with Martin Gatto, finance director, reported pre-tax profit of £54.6 million. That compares with a figure of £43 million. Brokers are continuing to express concern about the ability of the small supermarket chains to prevent their bigger rivals eroding market share.

Budgens slipped ½p to 45¼p after reporting interim figures on Monday. **J Sainsbury** slipped 4p to 387p ahead of a Friday's trading update. **Tesco**, which reported a 12 per cent rise in like-for-like sales on Monday, softened 2p to 367p.

William Cook firmed 5p to 380p after injecting the increased terms from **Triplex Lloyd**, down 11p at 192½p. Triplex Lloyd has raised its mixture of cash and shares from 309p to 401p a share, valuing William Cook at £74.8 million, which William Cook said is still too low.

Life Sciences International responded to the £236 million bid from Thermo Instrument Systems, the US company, with a leap of 41½p to 134p. LSI has forecast pre-tax profits of £27 million, before restructuring costs of £27 million.

Jacques Vert, the loss-making women's fashionwear group, stood out with a jump of 21p at 53½p after announcing details of a proposed shake-up. Littlewoods Home Shopping is taking a near 30 per cent stake for £2.7 million.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The London bond market also responded positively to the bullish remarks from Alan Greenspan, with prices clawing back early sharp falls to finish mixed on the day.

The Bank of England issued details of next week's double auction consisting of £2.5 billion of Treasury 7¼ per cent 2007 on Tuesday and £1.5 billion of Treasury 7 per cent 2002 on Thursday.

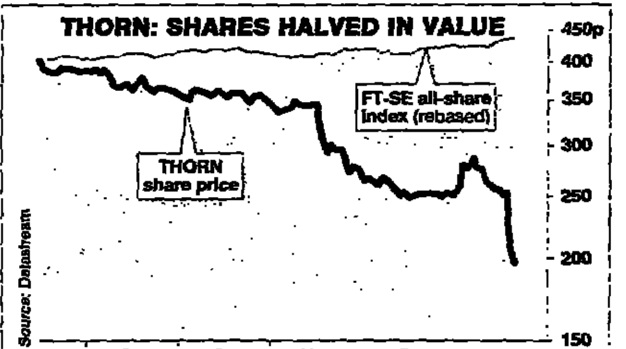
The March series of the long gilt closed a tick easier at £110⅞, after touching a low for the day of £110½. There were 71,000 contracts.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 slipped a tick to £103²⁹⁄₃₂, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 lost £¹⁄₁₆ at £103¹³⁄₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares on Wall Street moved higher in early trading as bonds welcomed a generally upbeat testimony by Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman. A rally in Boeing shares helped. The Dow Jones industrial average was 24.25 points higher by midday at 6,868.12.

There are signs of a revival in the fortunes of BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*. After tumbling from a peak of of 696p last year the price rose 10p to 571½p yesterday as Kleinwort Benson, the broker, issued a target price of 700p a share.

THORN: SHARES HALVED IN VALUE



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 6868.12 (+24.25)
S&P Composite .... 779.91 (+3.21)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 17358.16 (-122.18)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 13732.79 (-135.45)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 672.32 (-1.31)

Sydney:
AO .... 2430.3 (-13.9)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2976.71 (-53.97)

Singapore:
Straits .... 2250.79 (-21.09)

Brussels:
General .... 11199.15 (+10.53)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... 2409.88 (+3.78)

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 876.90 (+9.80)

London:
FT 30 .... 2827.2 (+10.2)
FT 100 .... 4195.5 (+1.5)
FTSE Mid 250 .... 4570.1 (-10.1)
FTSE 350 .... 2081.6 (-0.4)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 .... 2017.21 (-17.93)
FT All-Share .... 2055.17 (-0.66)
FT Non Financials .... 2111.7 (+1.12)
FT Fixed Interest .... 117.45 (+0.41)
FT Govt Secs .... 94.75 (-0.28)
Bargains 49018
SEAQ Volume 873.9m
US$ .... 1.6622 (-0.0008)
German Mark .... 2.7006 (+0.0002)
Exchange Index .... 96.9 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.3816
£:SDR .... n/a
RPI .... 154.4 Dec (2.5%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX .... 154.2 Dec (3.1%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Aquarius	174½	...
BZW Endowment Red	56½	- ½
Cadcentre	267½	...
Enterprise Vent Cap	89½	- 4
Epicore Network	55	...
GB Railways	262	- 15½
Hardy Underwrtg	170	...
Netcall	45½	...
Oxford Biomedica	57½	...
Parkwood Holdings	74½	...
Pilat Technologies	59½	...
Sheffield United	102½	- 6
Sunderland	752½	- 5
Sutton Harbour	132	...
Wst Brom Albion	£235	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Ashquay n/p (33)	2	...
Compel Gp n/p (160)	3½	...
Pressac n/p (180)	56½	- 8
Prism Rail n/p (330)	220	...
Shaftesbury n/p (137)	24½	...
Wickes n/p (150)	11½	- 1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Jacques Vert .... 53½p (+21p)
Allied Text .... 195p (+13½p)
Clyde Blowers .... 320p (+17½p)
Austin Reed .... 211½p (+10p)
Christies Int .... 281p (+12p)
Ashtead .... 240p (+9½p)
Barratt Devs .... 276p (+8½p)
RMC Gp .... 940½p (+14p)
Molins .... 947½p (+10p)
Rolinco .... 522p (+7p)
Bellway .... 344p (+7½p)

FALLS:
Six Hundred .... 144½p (-55p)
Saltire .... 67½p (-10p)
Brent Chems .... 98p (-8½p)
Bluebird Toys .... 165p (-9½p)
Londn & Man .... 415½p (-17p)
Filtronic Com .... 331p (-11½p)
Lex Service .... 322½p (-9p)
Allied Irish .... 397½p (-11p)
Legal & Gen .... 387p (-8½p)
Scotia .... 720p (-15p)
Celltech .... 620p (-12½p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

Cyclical stocks turned over

RISK is in the eye of the beholder but some businesses, branded as cyclical, never escape punishment when things go wrong. The 600 Group machine toolmaker suffered yesterday when it warned the market about destocking by dealers who sell the company's computer-controlled lathes. Worries that the machine tool cycle had already run its course knocked more than 25 per cent off the shares. The shares are valued at only 9 times forecast earnings and 7 times 1998 earnings.

On such a rating one might assume that machine tools were heading for deep recession, or that 600 Group was heading for serious trouble. Yet there is no evidence to support either proposition. With expectations of profits of £11 million, the company is hardly a basket case. 600 Group did report a softer market in the UK last summer, but the main culprit for the sales downturn was a rush by dealers to build up supplies last year of its Tornado CNC lathe, which was enjoying huge popularity. Demand pushed order times out to six months, causing dealers to build up stocks. These are unwinding, but 600 Group can now deliver in less than four weeks.

A climate of steady growth and low inflation is ideal for machine toolmakers; by rights the sector should be prospering rather than heading for collapse. Unfortunately, old prejudices die hard. Fashionable service businesses, such as recruitment are even more volatile than engineers, being prone to collapsing sales during recession. Yet such companies now enjoy share ratings of 20 times earnings. Poor old 600 Group must live and die an engineer, but the shares do look cheap.

Somerfield

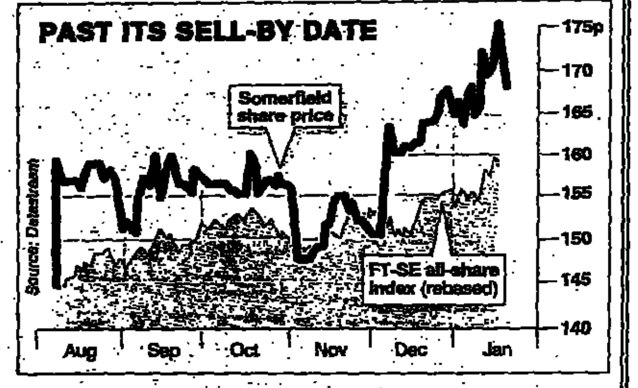
EVERY dog has its day and so it is with new flotations. Those investors who bought shares in Somerfield last August at its deeply-discounted 145p flotation price will have made a tidy profit of up to 20 per cent on Monday, had they sold their shares at 174p, when the stock reached a record high.

Now for the bad news: that could turn out to be as good as it is going to get. Nothing in yesterday's maiden interim results suggests a reason for the share price to reach a similar level in the foreseeable future.

The biggest worry about Somerfield is sales growth. Yesterday's figures made painfully clear that the vast bulk of its unspectacular like-for-like sales increase comes from those stores that have been converted from the old Gateway fascia into Somerfields in the past two years. Sales are falling at the rump of old Gateways and the discount format Food Giants. Meanwhile, those Somerfield stores that were converted at an earlier stage are also seeing poor growth rates.

Somerfield's managers admit they cannot continue to push margins higher; what they need is growth in the top line. If it cannot achieve growth in sales, Somerfield will become the prey of powerful competitors. Supporters point out that Somerfield shares are cheaper than Kwik Save, but that is hardly a reason to buy them. Take profits while you can.

PAST ITS SELL-BY DATE



Life Sciences

SIR Christopher Bland, former boss of LWT, once described Life Sciences International as his baby. Television may be more glamorous and made him much more money, but Sir Christopher and his team assembled the laboratory equipment group more or less from scratch.

For the first five years, Life Sciences gave its shareholders a terrific run for their money. Sadly, the second five years has been almost all downhill as the company wrestled with a string of problems: the squeeze on healthcare budgets, a poor acquisition and an expensive legal dispute among them. Yet Life Sciences remained strongly profitable.

Yesterday's offer from Thermo Instrument Systems looks a reasonable deal for both sides. Life Sciences's shares have looked substantially undervalued for some time. Management recognise that recovering lost ground under their own steam could be a long and uncertain journey. At the same time, the phone has not exactly been ringing with competing offers.

Perhaps the news will flush out another bidder. The directors have not given binding acceptances for their own shares, so there is still some hope of a better deal.

Triplex/Cook

TRIPLEX LLOYD has brought out a sledge-hammer in its battle for William Cook. With its final bid, worth 389p, it has accepted that its fellow metal-basher does indeed have more life in it than the City expected.

Increasing the offer by some 30 per cent should still not break the bank at Triplex. It plans to take Cook's products abroad, and says it has already received interest from it largest clients in buying a broader range of products from an enlarged group. Other benefits, it says, should be £2.5 million.

If true, the acquisition should wash its face within the first year, even if the seven institutions that control William Cook opt for Triplex's cash alternative. If William Cook does indeed produce the 37.2p earnings it has now forecast for 1997, Triplex's higher bid values the company on a lower multiple than its last offer.

Three months ago, nobody would have considered paying anywhere near 400p for Cook; its shares were languishing at 240p and its management were downbeat about its prospects. Since the takeover bid started, Cook has claimed that there was always more under the mattress than previously revealed. Few companies are so shy of boasting about their achievements. Either Cook is the exception or Triplex is going to regret cracking this particular nut.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Mar	[illegible]	May	[illegible]
May	[illegible]	Jul	[illegible]
Jul	[illegible]	Sep	[illegible]
Sep	[illegible]	Dec	[illegible]
Dec	[illegible]		
Mar	[illegible]	Volume:	[illegible]

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	[illegible]	Sep	[illegible]
Mar	[illegible]	Nov	[illegible]
May	[illegible]	Jan	[illegible]
Jul	[illegible]	Volume:	[illegible]

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

[illegible]

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

[illegible]

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	22.75	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Mar)	22.45	-0.35
Brent 15 day (Apr)	22.05	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	24.25	-0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	23.75	-0.30

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	215 (n/c)	219 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	217 (n/c)	219 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Naphtha	221 (+2)	224 (+3)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Feb	203.75-04.00	May	195.00-89.25
Mar	199.50-99.75	Jun	185.00-85.50
Apr	193.25-93.75		Vol: 17711

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	22.45-22.49	Jun	21.24 BID
Apr	[illegible]	Jul	20.92 BID
May	21.63 BID		Vol: 22454

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	[illegible]	Jan	89.50
Mar	[illegible]	Mar	91.00
May	[illegible]	May	91.50
Jul	[illegible]	Sep	90.00
Sep	[illegible]	Nov	92.00
Volume: 296		Volume: 64	

POTATO (£/t) [illegible]

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k) [illegible]

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt) [illegible]

(Official) (Volume prev day) LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff

[illegible]

LIFFE OPTIONS

[illegible]

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 64685	Mar 97	4196.0	4207.0	4166.0	4200.0	12653
	Jun 97	4200.0	4200.0	4200.0	4221.0	220
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 5762	Mar 97				4617.0	0
	Jun 97					0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 423377	Mar 97	93.57	93.62	93.56	93.59	34233
	Jun 97	93.31	93.37	93.30	93.33	30322
	Sep 97	93.08	93.12	93.04	93.07	17619
Three Mth Euro Yen	Jun 97	99.41	99.41	99.41	99.41	380
	Sep 97	99.30	99.31	99.30	99.30	150
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: [illegible]	Mar 97	96.93	96.94	96.93	96.93	21451
	Jun 97	96.93	96.96	96.92	96.94	22533
Long Gilt Previous open interest: [illegible]	Mar 97	110-28	111-04	110-16	110-24	73010
	Jun 97	110-14	110-14	110-14	110-13	23
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 97	126.14	126.15	125.93	126.01	1868
	Jun 97	124.49	124.57	124.49	124.55	105
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 231297	Mar 97	101.35	101.64	101.25	101.45	[illegible]
	Jun 97	100.57	100.57	100.20	100.55	115
Three month ECU Previous open interest: [illegible]	Mar 97	96.03	96.05	96.03	96.04	[illegible]
	Jun 97	96.11	96.13	96.11	96.12	[illegible]
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 76182	Mar 97	98.08	98.17	98.06	98.16	7273
	Jun 97	98.02	98.12	[illegible]	98.11	[illegible]
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 111435	Mar 97	131.65	131.92	131.18	131.73	67688
	Jun 97	131.20	131.30	130.80	131.22	792

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7 Low 6 Week fixed: 6
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]. Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open 6, close 7.

Local Authority Deps:	6	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.35	n/a	5.43	5.56	5.94
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2-1
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $352.90-353.10 Close: $353.60-353.90 High: $355.40-355.90
Low: $352.50-353.00 AM: $353.40 PM: $354.70

Krugerrand: $353.00-355.00 (£211.00-213.00)

Platinum: $358.75 (£215.50) **Silver:** $4.74 (£2.845) **Palladium:** $121.75 (£73.25)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for January 21	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.0319-3.0407	3.0345-3.0370	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	55.610-55.830	55.667-55.739	18-13pr	45-41pr
Copenhagen	10.291-10.311	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dublin	1.0240-1.0268	1.0245-1.0263	6-2pr	14-8pr
Frankfurt	[illegible]	2.7012-2.7037	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madrid	225.51-226.25	[illegible]	4-6ds	[illegible]
Milan	[illegible]	[illegible]	21-27ds	[illegible]
Montreal	2.2255-2.2313	2.2254-2.2279	0.66-0.61pr	1.22-1.14pr
New York	[illegible]	1.6632-1.6641	0.119-0.097pr	[illegible]
Oslo	10.702-10.797	10.746-10.759	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	[illegible]	9.1127-9.1201	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	[illegible]	195.89-196.16	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	18.980-19.045	19.002-19.021	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	2.3500-2.3568	2.3515-2.3547	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2856-1.2866
Austria	11.42-11.43
Belgium (Com)	33.47-33.48
Canada	1.3380-1.3385
Denmark	6.1910-6.1930
France	5.4784-5.4794
Germany	1.6250-1.6257
Hong Kong	7.7375-7.7380
Ireland	1.6215-1.6235
Italy	1579.20-1580.70
Japan	117.88-117.98
Malaysia	2.4832-2.4842
Netherlands	1.8243-1.8248
Norway	6.4467-6.4487
Portugal	161.75-161.85
Singapore	1.4060-1.4070
Spain	135.85-135.90
Sweden	7.0719-7.0794
Switzerland	1.4140-1.4150

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6630-1.6657
Australia dollar	2.1397-2.1424
Bahrain dinar	0.6210-0.6330
Brazil real*	1.7391-1.7436
China yuan	13.638-13.938
Cyprus pound	0.8030-0.8110
Finland markka	7.8100-7.9260
Greece drachma	416.75-423.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.8775-12.8864
India rupee	59.18-60.14
Indonesia rupiah	3910.0-3978.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4965-0.5065
Malaysia ringgit	4.1325-4.1366
New Zealand dollar	2.3631-2.3668
Pakistan rupee	66.20 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9950-6.1190
Singapore dollar	2.3399-2.3425
S Africa rand (com)	7.682-7.784
U A E dirham	6.0475-6.1715

*Barclays Bank GTS *Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	602	Lloyds TSB	13,900
ASDA Gp	10,500	LucasVarity	4,800
Abbey Ntl	8,000	Marks Spr	3,700
Allied Dom	2,800	Mercury Asset	373
Argos	1,100	NatWst Bk	8,000
AB Foods	908	Nat Grid	5,100
BAA	1,400	Nat Power	1,500
BAT Inds	3,900	Next	417
BOC	1,400	Orange	4,800
BP	4,900	P & O	2,000
BSkyB	6,400	Pearson	2,300
BTR	13,400	PowerGen	1,100
BT	12,800	Prudential	5,500
Bk of Scot	4,800	RMC	1,100
Barclays	4,300	RTZ	3,900
Bass	1,800	Railtrack	1,100
Blue Circle	722	Rank Group	5,600
Boots	2,400	Reckitt Col	679
BAe	1,600	Redland	2,600
BA	1,900	Reed Intl	1,700
Brit Gas	5,300	Rentokil	5,200
Brit Steel	10,000	Reuters	5,200
Burmah Cstl	791	Rolls Royce	6,400
Burton	9,500	Royal & Sun	2,800
Cable Wire	6,100	Royal Bk Scot	3,900
Cadbury	7,700	Safeway	6,200
Carlton Cms	2,500	Sainsbury	2,600
Cm Union	2,300	Schroders	100
Dixons	1,200	Scot & New	1,000
EMI	1,600	Scot Power	1,900
Enterpr Oil	2,200	Svrn Trent	697
GKN	477	Shell Trans	4,100
GRE	2,500	Siebe	1,400
GUS	2,200	SmKl Bch	4,300
Gen Acc	1,800	Smith Nph	4,000
Gen Elec	2,600	Smiths Inds	480
Glaxo Well	6,600	Std Chartd	3,200
Granada	5,400	TI Gp	1,900
Grand Met	7,300	Tate & Lyle	1,200
Guinness	7,400	Tesco	2,900
HSBC	2,600	Thames W	999
Hanson	17,300	Tomkins	3,000
Hays	170	Unilever	1,700
ICI	1,900	Utd Utilities	2,900
Imp Tob	1,600	Utd News	828
Kingfisher	7,300	Vodafone	11,300
LASMO	4,900	Whitbread	1,400
Ladbroke	8,500	Wlms Hld	525
Land Secs	1,200	Wolseley	1,800
Legal & Gn	5,400	Zeneca	2,300

WALL STREET

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Lowe Bell holds back

ANTHONY CARDEW was not the only public relations officer on Nicola Horlick's hastily drawn-up list. It appears that La Horlick shopped around, putting a call into Lowe Bell Financial first. Quickly — but not that quick — Lowe Bell put in a request for more time. Then in jumped Cardew, the Max Clifford of City PR, and Horlick's roller-coaster ride took off. Word has it that Lowe Bell would have said "no" to superwoman's request. Now they would not want to upset Morgan Grenfell, would they?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Greg Hutchings. The chairman of Tomkins is 50 today, but he won't be marking it with a party. "Nobody knows I'm 50, and I try to pretend birthdays don't happen," he whispers. Instead, he will go for an early morning run.

Party wine

SIR James Goldsmith is *mixing drinks with politics.* Although perhaps better used to champagne, his Referendum Party is launching its own wine. It's English, of course, from the Rowenden vineyard in Kent, and the Ridgewood winery in East Sussex. Called Sovereignty, it will sell at £4.50 a bottle. But will it be used to toast Sir James's success at the general election, or to drown his sorrows?

Goldsmith: toast

Last parade?

WORD has it that Procter & Gamble is breaking its ties with the gaudy world of children's beauty pageants. For the past 30 years, the multinational has sponsored the Miss USA, Miss Teen USA, and Miss Universe pageants. As the contract runs out this year, a spokeswoman says that it is unlikely that P&G will renew. The official line is that its products are not getting the coverage P&G is looking for. Or could the Boxing Day murder of a child beauty queen in Boulder, Colorado, have been a factor?

Rankin bows out

AFTER 37 years at Scottish & Newcastle, starting out as a warehouseman and ending as chairman, Sir Alick Rankin is bowing out next week. Aged 62, the Old Etonian is retiring to Glenalmond, Perthshire, where he will be anything but reclusive; he remains chairman of Christian Salvesen, deputy chairman of General Accident, and a non-executive director of the Bank of Scotland.

Never short of humour, Sir Alick recalls when he was subjected to psychometric testing. "Two professors walked into my office and quizzed me for half an hour. Two weeks later they came back to debrief me. They looked a bit shifty and, wondering if something was wrong, I asked them to come out with it. Then they blurted out 'Broadly, we don't know how you got the job and how you've kept it.'"

MEMBERS of The London Capital Club have rechristened the club's popular Tequila Slammer. Now known as a "Horlick's", the knockout drink is said to be a big hit among members from Morgan Grenfell.

MORAG PRESTON

Gerry Robinson and Granada are believed to have paid Citigate £1 million for its work on the Forte bid out of an estimated £120 million in fees

No soft soap in the attempts to clean up PR in the City

Jon Ashworth says the Takeover Panel is prepared to take stern action over unauthorised leaks

City spin-doctors have much in common with bars of soap. They are manageable enough when you first open the packet, but just try to get a grip on them when wet. They slip and slide around the tub, leaving an oily film on the dirty bathwater. And oh, the slimy mess when the water has drained away.

It is in the murky world of takeover *bids that the role of* the financial public relations *executive comes into its own.* The same names crop up time and again, calling in favours and massaging announcements in the drive to keep the client ahead of the game. Success fees potentially running into millions of pound are at stake.

But for how much longer? Pension funds are said to be growing increasingly unhappy about the level of fees paid to advisers in general. Banks, lawyers and others earned *more than £1 billion in fees for* their work in advising on *takeovers and mergers in the* UK last year. City PR firms *might rank low in the pecking* order, but still stand to pick up the odd million. The potential spoils are huge — but so are the penalties for those who cross the line.

Nowhere was the process demonstrated more clearly than in the case of Granada's £3.3 billion punt for Forte. Sir Rocco Forte was in Yorkshire when the bid flashed up on the City screens on November 22 1995, and never fully recovered *his poise. Granada's PR team,* led by Jonathan Clare of *Citigate, became locked in a* mighty tussle with Brunswick, *led by Alan Parker. The out*come was perhaps inevitable, but the Brunswick corner put up a good fight.

The bid for Forte cost Granada an estimated £120 million in fees; the bulk of it on underwriting. Granada's advisers, ABN Amro and Barclays de Zoete Wedd, received £11 million each. Citigate pocketed about £1 million for its work, although *no figure was disclosed. Either* way, Mr Clare and his team *got their celebratory dinner at* the Berkeley.

This aside, City PRs have much to concern them. Soon after the completion of the Granada bid, Sir David Calcutt, chairman of the Takeover Panel, wrote to senior figures in the PR industry, cautioning them about the improper leaking of price-sensitive information before and during takeover bids. Sir David noted the Panel's "increasing level of concern" about the number of unau*thorised leaks, and gave warn*ing of stern action if the *practice continued.*

Financial Dynamics, one of the bigger City players, had been embroiled in a row over the alleged leaking of price-sensitive information ahead of financial results from Caradon, the building products group. Some in the industry came out in support of tighter regulation of City PRs. Those supporting a system of licensing for practitioners included Anthony Cardew, currently acting for Nicola Horlick in *her dispute with* Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.

The role of the City PR *in takeover bids will* always be controversial, but the industry insists it has cleaned up its act. Some of the dodgier practices seen in the Eighties — private eyes tailing clients, investigators sifting through dustbins — are long gone, they insist. Regulatory bodies such as the Securities and Investments Board (SIB) and Takeover Panel have seen to that.

But the industry remains as *shrouded in suspicion as ever.* Can you really trust that PR *adviser when they feed you* that "hot" tip about the other camp? Why is it that certain Sunday newspapers always *seem to be on the inside track?*

Scions of the PR industry close ranks on this one. Lord Chadlington, aka Peter Gummer, the chairman of Shandwick, said that firms previously brought in on special projects are now increasingly working with company boards at every stage.

Piers Pottinger, group man*aging director of Lowe Bell* Communications, said advis*ers were under much closer* scrutiny from regulatory au*thorities. Mr Pottinger, whose* assignments included Hoylake's bid for BAT Industries, and Minorco's punt for Consolidated Goldfields, said it was important to assess a client's case dispassionately to see whether it would stand up to scrutiny. He said: "It's got to be more than: 'Ya! Booh! Sucks to you.' We're talking about value."

Brian Basham, scourge of ICI and others, says City PR has moved into a new league. Mr Basham, who acted for Hanson in the tussle with ICI, and represented the late Sir James Gulliver during the Guinness saga, said: "Any*body now who indulges in the* Friday night drop is putting *their client's interests in jeop*ardy. The SIB is waiting to pounce. You've just got to be quicker and more creative, while staying within the rules."

Media handling is just part of it. The PR team will work with bankers and lawyers to agree the main issues, and try to ensure that a company's line stands up to scrutiny. They are often heavily involved with investor relations, and in matters of documentation. There are also political and regulatory issues to consider.

That "huge" success fee may not be such a big deal after all. *Philip Healey, editor of Acquisitions Monthly,* said projecting the right image early on in a bid was worth its weight in gold — as shown by Granada's wrong-footing of Forte. Once the bid machine begins to roll, fees to advisers become an almost secondary concern.

Mr Healey says PR advisers will ultimately fall prey to the next downturn in the economic cycle. The frantic activity seen in the Eighties dried up in the recession, and will do so again. Mr Healey said: "Enjoy it while it lasts. The mergers and acquisitions market prob*ably has no more than one or* two years left to run."

Business problems brought to life in the classroom

The Times 100 is again being sent to schools, **Fraser Nelson** reports

Cadbury's conquest of Poland and the rebirth of the Skoda are among the case studies of business strategy included in this year's edition of *The Times 100*, the business studies teaching aid.

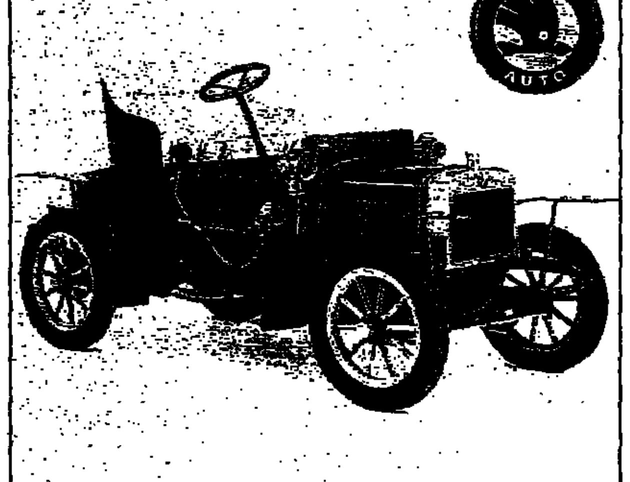
The publication contains 59 examples of business issues ranging from trademark protection to the relocation of supermarkets. Sponsored by companies that volunteer aspects of their business for scrutiny in the classroom, *The Times 100* aims to provide students with real-life exam*ples from well-known business*es to back up business theory *learnt through text books.*

The chocolate industry is used *to illustrate the business* logic behind expansion into *emerging markets. Cadbury's* case study tells how the confec*tionary giant noticed that none* of its rivals had moved in to Poland in the years *after its* revolution. Demand for chocolate was being met by a handful of small Polish manufacturers, with none of the glamour in Cadbury's arsenal.

Poland was a relatively small market, the study continues — the average Briton ate 14 kilograms of sweets in 1994 against 4.72 kilograms eaten by the average Pole. But years of Communist rule had artificially capped chocolate appetites and the market was young.

Cadbury's first dilemma was whether to produce chocolate in Poland, *or just ship* bars out to the country and then distribute them. Setting up *shop* involved substantial risk, but exporting was being hindered *by import* barriers set up by the Government.

*It decided to enter the coun*try and the *next* question was where to locate. A *balance* had to be struck between availability of employment, transport links and distance from competitors. Lastly, Cadbury had to decide whether to staff the outfit with expatriates, who *knew the* business, or with locals, who knew the area. *Students are given the argu*ments for or against each point, and are invited *to learn from* the dilemma.



Skoda's efforts to break with its past provide a case study

Skoda, in turn, describes its efforts to revitalise its image. *After its deal with Volkswagen,* it says, it was presented with an opportunity to break from its past and emerge as the choice of a new generation.

Skoda details the task its marketing team had to face: its car had become the subject of too many jokes, but with the new alliance, it could offer Volkswagen technology at a much cheaper price.

The result was its advertising *offensive* ("We've *changed* the car — can you change your mind?"). It shows how its marketing unit then split car buyers into four categories, separated by attitude.

These started with the acceptors ("I will consider buying this car") to the persuasives ("I *would not like to be the first to* own one.") Then came the current rejectors ("It *will have* to improve before I consider buying one") and lastly the residual rejectors ("I would never consider a Skoda").

Students are asked how the residual rejectors could be converted and what other slogans the car manufacturer could have used to achieve the phoenix-like resurrection of image it *demanded.*

Stakeholding is the concept *dealt with by the case study* from the Association of Water *Service Companies of England* and Wales. It explains the logic behind privatising *water* and about the fears held by its users over the misuse of a monopoly.

The users, it explains, are stakeholders who with shareholders and directors hold an interest in the utility. It goes on to explain that stakeholders often have conflicting interests, *and invites students to ask how* to resolve these tensions.

The roles of the Office of Fair Trading and the Monopolies and Mergers Commission are explained and *hypothetical* conflicts between Ofwat, the MMC, environmental *agencies* and the Government are created.

Ultimately *The Times 100* aims to give students the information they need to connect their studies to the real world and with the financial pages of newspapers. The publication contains a glossary of business*speak* and a guide to using the *business section of The Times.* While history textbooks can *hold good for decades, business* studies texts tend to date sooner. Their task is to explain an ever-changing environment, and this gives them a very short shelflife. The development of deregulated water authorities would be covered by few textbooks; indeed, many still in use in the classroom deal with water privatisation as nothing more than a possibility.

Dave Needham, senior lecturer in Business Education at Nottingham Trent University, is one of the authors recruited to compile the case studies. For the past year, he has been talking to teachers and pupils who used the first edition of *The Times 100*, and helped to draw up improvements to develop the second edition.

"When you discuss concepts and ideas in the classroom, it is difficult for students to gain a picture about how they work," he says. "By giving students examples which they can identify with, the studies provide them with and give them a *much firmer grasp of the issues* which they are dealing with.

"*In business studies, it is just* not possible to teach the same *area in the same way year after* year. At the same time, schools *do not have the budgets which* allow them to update their resources as often as they would like. We found that teachers with limited budgets have welcomed the materials which arrive regularly and free of charge because they provide an updated prospective upon which they can base the delivery of their courses."

The first edition drew praise from everyone from schoolchildren to Tony Blair, the Labour leader, who said he found the series fascinating reading. The second edition is accompanied by a free CD-Rom, which *contains all the entries* and allows each study to be printed out and *used as a handout.* They should have reached every UK secondary school by the end of the month.

Companies interested in taking part in the third edition of The Times 100 *should contact MBA Publishing, 01937 541541*

ANTHONY HARRIS

Greed is not a joke, even when it rebounds

When the greedy over-reach themselves, we all get a *good laugh. The billionaire* Hunt brothers came unstuck *years ago, but the memory* still gives me a warm feeling. *Their attempt to corner the* silver market failed when the world's *petty thieves unload*ed old sporting trophies in tonnage lots — a rare example of poetic justice in the *markets. The Leeson* case also looks promising. (Nicola Horlick, for whom a million or so may apparently not be enough, could star in another.)

But once the gee-whiz scheme is worked out, each incident tends to be forgotten. Sometimes useful lessons are learnt. The management of derivatives traders is surely tighter since Leeson and Metallgesellschaft: and Mrs Horlick *may make* City firms usefully more edgy about promoting staff as stars. But *sometimes* amnesia is almost instant. It is only *six months since possibly* the biggest loser of them all was *exposed: but who now re*members Yasuo Hamanaka?

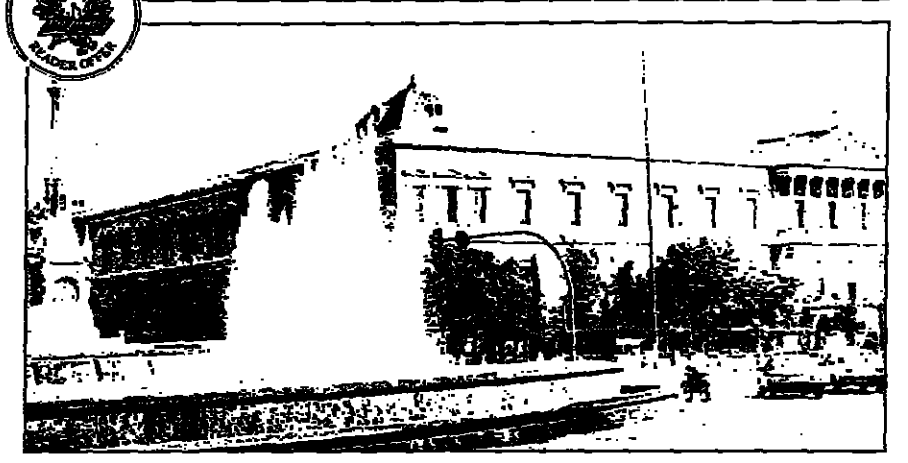
In a decade as Sumitomo's chief copper trader, he repeatedly tried to squeeze the copper futures market. The estimated cost of closing out the long position he had accumulated was last put at $4 billion. But the killer blow was delivered not by little men, but by the hedge funds. Hamanaka name is hard to memorise, and Sumitomo survives him. Moreover $4 billion is the gross figure. Nobody yet knows how much Sumitomo made on his trades in the years before *they were exposed. And that* is surely the interesting figure. The *huge loss is de*servedly a joke.

Manipulation creates a false market, and the specu*lator is not the only victim* when it comes unstuck, as thousands of out-of-work Chilean miners can testify. It ought, then, to be stopped. Easier said than done, you may say. The crime is ancient — do you remember "forestalling and regrating" from your schooldays? — and dates back to Roman times at least. In all that time, the perpetrators have usually got away with it; but *neither* that awkward fact, nor the hope that *time* will *produce* its own revenge, should make *us tolerate it. It* can be stopped: or if not stopped, *inconvenienced.*

The law is the oldest remedy, *but it is also the* least effective. The SIB report on *the Sumitomo affair seems to* forget this. It argues that *futures* manipulation is already illegal under Section 47 of *the Financial Services* Act — which was drafted to stop share market rigging. But it seems unlikely that even a Demosthenes, let alone our own prosecuting authorities, could persuade a British court to share this view, or that it would help much if he did. In the US commodity market, manipulation has long been forbidden under the Commodity Exchange Act; but there has hardly ever been a successful prosecution.

What does work in the US, and could work here, is transparency, as Christopher Gilbert, of Queen Mary College, argues in an academic study this week. *In the* US, traders with large open fu*tures positions have to report* them to the authorities every week; *the aggregate figures* are officially published within three days. This makes stealth impossible. The London Metal Exchange apparently lacks the powers to insist on such disclosure. It set up a "voluntary" reporting system post-Sumitomo, which seems to be working unexpectedly well, with 95 per cent compliance; but a firm rule would be more comforting.

And why should you bother with a set of *rules which in prac*tice applies only to profes*sionals? Because there is a* bigger issue here. Ever since *the international branches of* the US banks came to London to escape *intrusive* regulation, there has been a danger of a regulatory devaluation race. But the fringe operations of the swinging '60s — remember when newspapers could not use the word "eurodollar" without an explanatory footnote? — have now grown up. The global market is the new word; and global markets demand global rules. If the Anglo-Saxons cannot get their acts together, Brussels *may have the last laugh.*



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General Inc	583.00	620.30	- 4.20	2.39
UK Growth Acc	485.00	516.00	- 3.60	2.52
UK Growth Inc	313.90	334.00	- 2.30	2.52
Higher Inc Acc	678.80	726.40	- 7.50	3.89
Higher Inc Inc	463.80	493.50	- 4.00	3.89
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	215.30	227.30	- 0.60	5.37
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.23	90.52	- 0.30	5.37
Nth America	367.60	391.10	+ 0.30	..
Europe	371.00	394.70	- 3.50	0.17
Brit Exempt	95.90	102.10	- 0.70	2.65
Brit Fndmtls Acc	123.20	131.10	- 0.80	4.39
Brit Fndmtls Inc	82.35	87.61	- 0.61	4.39
Global Opps	100.40	106.90	- 0.50	...
Balanced Acc	85.17	89.34	- 0.43	2.46
Balanced Inc	60.86	64.74	- 0.40	2.46
Japan Acc	36.19	38.53	- 0.12	..
Pac Basin Acc	409.90	436.10	- 4.60	0.76
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	133.30	141.50†	- 0.50	6.72
High Inc Equity	192.29	205.60†	- 0.80	4.42
Worldwide Bond	267.70	283.90	- 1.10	4.71
American Growth	409.60	437.80†	- 1.30	0.30
Asian Pacific	329.40	352.30	- 1.70	0.39
Assets & Earnings	319.50	341.70	- 1.50	2.76
Euro Capital Acc	193.70	207.20	- 1.60	0.76
Extra Inc	42.94	45.69†	- 0.02	8.01
General	292.39	319.80	- 0.70	2.81
Global Opps	71.54	76.11	- 0.38	0.53
Japan	87.50	93.67	- 1.07	
Managed Inc	48.87	51.99†	- 0.17	4.33
Mastertrust	171.00	182.90	- 0.90	1.31
US Emerging Cos	209.30	222.70	+ 1.20	
Ethical	86.39	91.89	+ 0.27	1.93
International	135.50	144.29	- 0.90	0.50
Dividend & Growth	71.18	75.72†	- 0.31	4.47
Global Gwth & Sec	74.35	79.42	- 0.08	7.34
Latin America	72.35	76.97	+ 0.26	0.51
Capital Reserve	147.10	147.20	- 0.20	4.76
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2478.00	2577.00		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	63.50	65.88	- 0.03	0.15
Emerging Mkts	75.30	78.32	+ 0.11	0.04
European	156.90	163.10	- 0.70	
Extra Income #	49.95	52.56†	- 0.17	6.19
Far East Emg Eco	127.60	133.90	- 0.30	0.47
Fixed Interest #	26.27	27.32	+ 0.02	8.69
Fund Inv Tst #	158.70	166.50†		9.22
Japan	148.20	154.00	- 0.50	
Latin American	63.47	66.06	+ 0.24	0.74
Pacific	80.60	84.67	0.22	0.31
Property Share	79.74	83.72†	- 0.30	2.10
UK Emerging Cos	73.79	79.76†	0.12	1.21
UK Growth	57.79	60.19	0.37	1.95
Aber Wwide Port #	84.25	86.08†	- 0.53	2.89
Ethical	80.52	83.74†	- 0.37	2.11
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.64	50.89†		7.31
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0171 256 5863				
Resdl Property #	101.00	108.50		5.23
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	96.13	101.99	- 0.84	2.22
Income Builder Inc	64.37	69.75†	0.74	4.26
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	301.50	322.30	- 1.60	2.98
Capital	540.60	577.80	- 1.80	1.09
Balanced	870.40	930.40†	- 3.90	2.24
Accumulator	1685.00	1801.00	- 8.00	1.73
Income Trusts				
American Income	66.61	70.950	+ 0.34	2.25
High Income	488.00	521.30	- 1.90	4.09
Equity Income	272.00	290.60†	- 1.50	3.82
High Yield	295.10	315.30	- 1.70	3.81
Govt Securities	35.25	37.220	+ 0.07	5.87
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	232.90	248.30	+ 1.10	0.05
European Growth	56.18	60.050	+ 0.41	0.07
International	189.50	202.40†	- 0.70	0.11
Japan	156.00	166.70†	3.10	
Pacific	399.20	426.70†	- 0.50	
Secs of America	620.50	660.40	+ 6.50	0.12
Wwide Asset Val	56.06	59.930	- 0.33	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	680.00	726.90	- 3.30	1.88
Com & Gilt	52.55	56.170	- 0.02	3.77
Smaller Cos	218.70	233.70†	- 1.00	0.98
2nd Smaller Cos	208.00	222.30	- 1.00	0.83
Recovery	177.80	190.00	0.70	1.49
Util Min & Com	167.90	179.40	+ 1.20	0.17
Ocean Earnings	445.10	475.80†	- 1.70	1.02
Technology	223.30	238.70	- 0.10	
UK Special Sits	628.00	671.30	- 1.60	0.93
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
Cntrctd Out Pens	123.10	127.80		3.04
Foundtn Pens Ports	72.13	74.93		1.44
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 600 0033				
Capital	90.67	96.46†	+ 0.09	0.78
International	67.70	72.02		
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
America	366.70	390.10	+ 2.70	
Bond	120.00	126.20†	- 0.40	6.52
Brit Smlr Cos	130.10	137.80†	- 0.70	1.73
Conv & Gen #	70.93	75.46	- 0.14	5.14
Europe	288.60	306.40	- 3.30	0.38
Euro Smlr Cos	127.20	135.40	- 1.00	0.57
Income Gwth	381.20	405.50†	- 0.90	4.65
Japan	257.00	273.20	- 2.90	
Latin American	91.83	97.69	+ 0.00	0.68
Pacific	117.90	125.40†	- 0.90	0.98
UK Smlr Cos	59.60	63.40†	- 0.13	1.24
Japan Fd	510.50	526.20	- 6.70	
Mngd Fd	207.70	220.30	- 1.30	2.59
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 489 8673				
Brit & Ovsrs	386.00	406.20		0.87
Capital Gwth	137.80	145.70		2.94
Wwide Opps	230.30	243.60		0.89
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Cash & Inc Inc	452.20	481.10	2.00	3.04
European Bal Inc	96.60	102.10†	+ 0.10	5.79
Exempt	86.82	94.49	0.50	2.58
500	530.40	570.30	0.70	2.11
General	346.50	368.70	1.50	2.16
Property	253.10	271.60†		4.96
Trustee	239.80	255.10†	1.30	2.23
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.33	100.33†		5.39
Distribution Inc	110.10	117.60†	0.50	5.94
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BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 214 1004				
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BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
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BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD 0141 223 6020				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 480 7216				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
CCI UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0161 927 5062				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD 01707 622 122				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
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CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	106.86	111.71	- 0.45	1.79
American Portfolio	119.60	125.04	- 0.10	1.02
European Portfolio	142.72	151.15	- 0.59	0.63
High Income	49.14	52.25	- 0.22	7.34
Japanese Portfolio	53.03	56.11†	- 0.37	
Pacific Portfolio	162.97	175.24	- 1.02	1.07
UK Equity	101.64	108.59	- 0.54	3.27
UK Equity & Bd	80.31	83.91	- 0.45	5.97
UK Smlr Cos	54.00	58.72	- 0.06	1.25
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	791.93	803.69		4.25
Fxd Int Sec	156.80	157.50	...	9.08
COIF CHARITY FUNDS 0171 588 1816				
Investment Inc	787.14	799.04		4.31
Investment Acc	1526.74	1537.30		
Fixed Int Inc	127.11	127.61		9.09
Fixed Int Acc	236.75	237.69		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Bedivere Intl	87.22	92.04		5.44
Bach Bio-Tech	42.39	45.13†		
Acorn Ethical 1st	193.33	203.01†		0.43
City Fin Assets	81.40	85.48		1.80
City Fin Intl	88.44	92.87	...	0.14
Fdsm Hse Cap	319.57	339.97†		2.33
Buckley Wrld Gth	137.65	145.91		
J Ctd Inc/Gth Inc	58.84	61.79†	..	3.38
Stow Utilities	63.43	65.01	- 0.62	6.81
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	56.31	59.75	+ 0.02	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0345 772 233				
American Grth	84.30	89.77	+ 0.50	
Dragon Growth	74.10	79.25	- 0.67	0.23
Equity High Inc	95.04	101.85	- 0.91	3.97
-do- Accum	138.45	148.37	- 1.33	3.97
Extra Income Inc	26.94	28.37†	+ 0.01	7.04
Extra Income Acc	30.07	31.66	+ 0.01	7.04
European Gwth	64.64	68.58	- 0.72	0.52
Evergreen	31.94	34.16	- 0.11	
General Equity	112.40	119.35	- 0.78	2.68
Japan Growth	37.17	39.54	- 0.13	
Pedigree Gwth	67.81	72.58	- 0.50	2.22
Ped Sm Cos Inc	39.60	42.58	0.07	1.12
-do- Accum	42.21	45.39	- 0.08	1.12
Retirement Inc #	28.71	31.02	- 0.23	5.72
Special Sits	49.31	53.02	- 0.11	2.21
UK & Overseas	61.31	65.05	- 0.17	0.51
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD 01634 898 800				
Balanced	73.96	77.04	- 0.45	3.92
Capital	87.54	91.18	- 0.59	2.51
High Income	53.22	55.43	- 0.12	6.51
Top 50	59.39	61.86	- 0.39	2.47
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	202.80	211.27	- 1.42	4.35
Long Gilt	44.24	46.06†	- 0.48	6.09
Monthly Inc Plus	51.44	53.59	- 0.14	8.36
Preference Share	48.94	50.98†	- 0.17	7.65
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	146.64	152.77†	- 0.74	5.58
Managed Fund	78.00	81.26	- 0.40	2.73
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	56.65	59.02	- 0.25	1.61
-do- Accum	86.16	89.76	- 0.29	1.61
UK & General	103.50	107.82	- 0.75	2.80
-do- Accum	136.18	141.87	- 1.00	2.80
UK Growth	208.72	217.44	- 1.66	1.29
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	214.06	223.00	- 2.78	0.66
Far Eastern Gth	129.94	135.37	- 1.27	0.02
Global Bond	75.42	78.57	- 0.04	6.31
Japan Growth	88.54	92.24	- 0.39	
North Amer Grth	251.76	262.28	+ 0.05	
Oriental Growth	87.52	91.18	- 0.89	0.25
Worldwide Growth	72.23	75.75	- 0.47	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.61	92.61	+ 0.01	5.19
Homemakers Fund	92.35	98.26	- 0.38	1.54
Quilter Fund	161.07	171.37	- 0.90	1.86
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	37.39	39.96		4.15
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 0800 526 358				
Growth	184.40	198.20	- 0.50	2.57
Income	75.18	79.98†	- 0.37	5.01
European	77.35	82.25	- 0.88	0.96
Recovery	193.40	205.70	- 3.70	2.44
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 283 8484				
Equity Dist	1028.30	1044.40		3.25
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 690 370				
Fellowship 1st	116.90	123.90	- 0.30	1.11
Income #	297.70	316.60	- 1.90	4.42
-do- Accum #	794.60	845.30	- 5.10	4.42
Smaller Cos	245.10	260.70†	- 1.00	0.92
-do- Accum	305.50	324.90	- 1.20	0.92
Gilt Portfolio	105.40	112.10	- 0.80	1.26
High Inc Port #	86.56	92.08	- 0.56	4.13
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 470 1684				
Euro Small Cos	1681.90	1727.80		..
Japan Small Cos	844.91	859.38		0.02
UK Small Cos	2297.08	2333.80†		2.76
US Small Cos	2182.50	2256.00		0.83
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	239.50	252.10	.	3.14
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD 01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	181.20	192.70	- 0.90	1.68
UK High Inc Inc	188.60	200.60	- 1.30	3.55
-do- Accum	258.50	275.00	- 1.80	3.55
UK Pref & F I Inc	60.20	63.89	- 0.30	5.79
Environmtl Opps	105.00	111.70	- 0.70	0.90
UK Smlr Cos #	75.31	80.11	- 0.10	1
Extra Income Inc	51.43	54.71	- 0.03	7.34
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 080 526				
Convertibles #	23.36	24.82†	- 0.02	5.64
Equity Income #	147.10	156.30†	- 0.80	3.84
European	64.37	68.08	- 0.66	0.58
Financial	60.85	64.65	- 0.45	1.39
Growth & Inc #	303.70	322.70	- 1.90	2.71
High Dist #	186.30	197.90	- 1.20	4.30
International	432.90	460.00	- 2.70	0.11
Inf Cap Inc	106.90	114.10†	- 0.50	2.37
Latin American	33.42	35.51	+ 0.10	
Pacific	85.87	91.24	+ 0.15	
Pref High Inc	22.71	24.13†	- 0.02	7.46
Tokyo	171.10	183.20	- 1.60	
UK Smaller Cos	263.70	280.70	- 0.40	1.07
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
Jap Smlr Co	326.40	346.10	- 1.50	
Nth Amer	449.90	476.40	+ 2.70	0.61
UK Inc & Grth	263.90	281.60	1.80	2.63
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
BRI Director Dige	123.58	132.17	- 2.96	1.06
Growth Acc	267.06	294.90†	+ 2.01	1.07
Income	640.71	685.25	+ 16.35	5.84
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	229.10	243.70		1.20
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
European	92.40	97.26	0.14	1.12
Ethical Tst	47.29	49.77†	0.31	0.30
Far Eastern	294.66	310.17	- 0.91	1.53
High Income	147.55	155.32	0.11	4.69
UK Index Trckng	54.42	57.29	+ 0.05	3.04
Intl Growth	143.56	151.10	- 0.21	0.60
North American	155.65	163.84	+ 0.05	1.65
Pelican	150.44	158.36	- 0.17	2.97
Smaller Cos	76.20	80.21†	+ 0.17	2.76
Special Sit	95.73	100.81	- 0.54	2.92
Tst of Inv Tsts	221.23	232.87	- 0.51	1.70
For Evermore see Laurence Keen				
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	99.90	106.14	- 0.16	
Fd of Inv Tsts	54.14	57.75†	- 0.13	0.50
High Income #	40.18	43.06†	+ 0.03	10.68
Warrant	46.05	50.05	0.03	
Zero Preference	45.15	47.90†	+ 0.07	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 797				
Family Asset Tst	100.20	106.50†	- 0.50	2.47
United Charities	329.40	361.00	- 1.30	1.96
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.70
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	26.95	27.84†	- 0.21	5.25
Strategic Inc	27.03	28.67†	- 0.07	5.62
Income Funds				
High Income	27.80	29.15†	- 0.11	5.20
Income Plus	140.40	149.30	- 0.90	3.81
European Income	51.68	54.91	- 0.37	2.48
UK Inc Gth	33.79	35.93	- 0.18	2.08
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	63.57	67.83	- 0.15	
American	352.90	373.98	+ 1.60	
Amer Spec Sits	194.90	207.80	- 0.50	
Japan Smaller Cos	24.58	26.23	- 0.11	
European	237.90	253.00	- 1.50	0.54
European Opps	82.53	87.73	0.84	0.02
Global Pro	32.78	34.86	- 0.21	0.37
UK Growth	129.30	139.10	- 0.70	1.41
Growth & Inc	189.50	201.50†	- 1.20	2.30
Intl PEP	50.42	53.67	0.21	1.02
Japan Spec Sit	66.67	70.80	- 0.34	
Japan	145.90	154.60	- 0.10	
Managed Intl	361.50	383.33	0.70	0.43
Moneybuilder	68.00	72.31	- 0.18	.
Recovery	65.67	69.78	+ 0.05	1.55
South E Asia	196.70	209.20	- 2.30	0.92
Special Sits	783.50	833.10	0.40	0.53
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	117.50	117.50	+ 0.01	5.70
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	152.60	155.10		1.54
Fxdnm Prf Inc #	100.45	101.30	- 0.40	6.13
Cap Plate	162.70	164.50†	- 1.10	1.35
General Opps	146.90	148.80		3.35
Growth Inc	28.82	30.30	- 0.40	1.34
Private Portfolio	491.70	400.70		1.20
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Dlg 01277 690 305 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smllr Cos	155.30	165.20	- 1.10	0.19
Emrg Asian	135.20	145.70	+ 1.30	
High Income	21.96	23.34†	- 0.16	9.64
UK Income #	117.80	125.50	- 0.80	4.23
US Smaller Cos	432.30	461.30	- 0.70	
For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter				
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	81.84	87.11	+ 0.37	
-do- Accum	81.84	87.11	+ 0.37	
Amer Smlr Cos	673.90	720.70	+ 4.00	
-do- Accum	688.40	736.30	+ 4.10	
Capital Tst	413.50	438.70	- 2.90	1.09
-do- Accum	607.50	644.60	- 4.10	1.09
Cntl Smlr Cos	60.50	64.56	+ 0.14	1.31
-do- Accum	64.37	68.69	+ 0.15	1.31
Convertible	143.20	152.30†	- 0.80	5.18
-do- Accum	317.10	337.30†	- 0.40	5.18
Emerging Markets	64.63	68.57†	- 0.48	0.30
-do- Accum	85.14	89.11†	- 0.49	0.30
European	155.00	164.20	- 1.20	0.50
-do- Accum	164.20	174.00	- 1.20	0.50
Extra Income	407.50	432.40†	+ 1.50	4.45
-do- Accum	657.20	697.30†	+ 2.80	4.45
Financial	182.60	193.70	- 2.00	0.46
-do- Accum	194.10	205.90	- 2.10	0.46
Gilt Trust	64.17	68.17	- 0.18	6.65
-do- Accum	96.80	102.90	- 0.30	6.65
Health Fund Inc	271.30	287.90	+ 0.50	.
-do- Accum	271.30	287.90	+ 0.50	
Income & Growth	235.00	249.30	- 1.90	3.61
-do- Accum	379.70	402.90	- 2.80	3.61
Intl Growth	429.60	455.80	+ 0.20	.
-do- Accum	477.00	506.10	+ 0.20	
Japan & Gen	133.20	141.30	- 0.80	
-do- Accum	134.50	142.70	- 0.90	.
Monthly Inc #	207.60	220.90†	- 1.10	4.38
-do- Accum #	209.50	222.90†	- 1.10	4.38
Managed Port Inc	123.20	129.80	+ 1.40	1.38
-do- Accum	134.00	141.80	+ 1.50	1.38
Quarterly Income #	58.52	62.09	- 0.44	5.28
-do- Accum #	67.83	71.97	- 0.51	5.28
Recovery	333.90	357.10†	- 0.70	...
-do- Accum	394.20	421.60†	- 0.80	
UK Growth	70.58	74.89	- 0.38	2
-do- Accum	76.53	81.20	- 0.42	2
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	64.96	69.25†	+ 0.65	0.03
FP Am Smllr Cos	208.40	222.20†	+ 1.40	.
FP Asian Growth	280.10	300.30	- 4.30	
FP Australian	415.90	443.60	- 3.30	...
FP Equity Dist	481.80	513.70†	- 2.10	2.30
-do- Accum	1110.75	1211.46	- 5.00	2.30
FP Euro Gth	300.80	320.80	- 2.90	..
-do- Accum	329.00	350.90	- 3.20	
FP Intl Bond	56.38	59.66	- 0.18	3.94
FP Intl Gth Dist	37.99	40.52†	- 0.28	.
-do- Accum	55.79	59.50	- 0.42	.
FP Pac Basin Acc	211.30	225.30†	- 3.00	
FP Income #	61.49	65.38†	- 0.32	4.82
-do- Accum #	218.50	233.00	1.20	4.82
FP Jap Smllr Cos	231.20	246.60†	- 2.80	
FP Monthly Dist #	78.16	83.37†	- 0.26	4.97
FP Stlg Deposit	100.10	100.10†		5.04
FP Tokyo	62.86	67.05	- 0.66	
FP UK Focus	44.36	47.31†	- 0.34	1.52
FP UK Growth	208.20	222.00†	- 1.20	2.10
-do- Accum	423.60	451.80	- 2.30	2.10
Stewardship Dist	466.50	497.50†	+ 0.10	1.17
-do- Accum	589.50	628.70	- 0.10	1.17
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	83.99	89.58†	+ 0.11	4.57
-do- Accum #	116.60	124.30	+ 0.10	4.57
N Am Stwdshp Dist	131.50	140.30		0.19
-do- Accum	141.50	150.90		0.19
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	112.10	112.60	.	3.50
Inst Ethical Ac #	112.10	112.60		3.50
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	130.70	139.00†	+ 0.10	1.22
Open Cap Gth Acc	134.40	142.90†	+ 0.40	0.10
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	121.30	129.00	+ 0.10	3.07
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	128.50	136.70	+ 0.10	3.07
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	126.00	134.00	+ 0.30	3.84
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	134.60	143.10	+ 0.30	3.84
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	308.30	327.00	- 2.30	1.83
Cash	49.83	50.57		4.78
Growth Portfolio	80.34	85.04†	- 0.94	0.13
Income Portfolio	74.70	79.26	- 0.69	2.97
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	240.00	256.70	+ 2.60	0.29
Dividend	102.60	109.70†	- 2.80	4.23
Intl Gth & Inc	256.10	273.80†	- 1.90	2.34
UK & Gen	52.86	56.53	- 0.54	1.47
Fund of Funds	78.16	83.62	+ 0.18	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	230.80	246.30	+ 0.70	0.14
European Gth	757.50	806.30	- 5.70	0.59
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	55.11	58.39	- 0.26	5.17
-do- Accum	62.56	66.28	- 0.39	5.17
Far East & Gen	272.70	291.50	- 2.80	.
High Yield #	50.80	53.73	- 0.09	7.79
-do- Accum #	56.90	60.18	- 0.10	7.79
Income Inc	207.60	222.10	- 0.30	3.87
-do- Accum	237.40	253.90	- 0.30	3.87
Intl Growth	389.30	414.80	- 1.80	0.30
Intl Income	94.80	98.58	- 0.42	2.74
Japan Growth	405.10	429.90	+ 0.50	
Orient Acc	210.40	225.10	- 1.90	0.13
UK General Inc	202.20	216.30	- 0.70	1.53
UK General Acc	361.20	386.30	- 1.50	1.53
UK Sm Cos Dlv Acc	64.15	68.61	+ 0.14	1.89
UK Spec Sits	110.30	118.00		1.39
US Growth	195.70	208.10	+ 1.00	
Wwide Spec Sits	164.40	175.10	- 0.90	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	63.78	67.97	- 0.32	2.00
Cash Trust	148.16	148.16†	+ 0.02	5.37
Practical Inv Inc #	125.35	133.96	- 0.26	3.59
-do- Accum #	303.07	324.14	- 0.64	3.59
UK Index	189.44	190.39	- 1.18	3.23
UK Smaller Cos	223.74	239.29	+ 0.24	0.26
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	24.67	25.56†	- 0.36	7.39
High Income	36.46	38.84	- 0.24	4.58
UK Equity Income	168.45	180.47	- 0.98	3.01
Global Bond	28.05	29.07†		4.78
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	48.80	51.98	- 0.22	.
Global Managed	147.25	156.95	- 0.58	0.92
Gold & Intl Res	107.57	115.05	- 0.92	.
Global Utilities	151.74	161.88†	- 1.07	1.17
Overseas Funds				
American	212.12	224.98	+ 1.45	0.52
European	139.10	147.66	- 1.77	0.54
Euro Sel Opps	213.69	227.26	- 2.57	
Amer Emerging	189.79	202.73†	+ 2.80	
Hong Kong	183.42	195.99	- 2.28	1.14
Japan	176.55	187.53	- 3.03	
Pacific Growth	231.53	248.53	- 2.16	.
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	269.41	269.41†	+ 2.48	1.89
Long Term Bal	286.72	286.72†	- 1.07	2.90
Med Term Bal	236.16	236.16†	- 1.01	2.90
UK Equity	323.73	323.73	- 1.11	2.42
UK Emerging Cos	191.52	191.52†	+ 0.48	1.89
American	346.64	346.64	+ 1.40	0.44
Japan	101.59	101.59	- 0.76	.
European	362.66	362.66	- 4.52	0.73
Index Linked Gilt	189.85	189.85†	- 1.07	2.65
Fixed Interest	181.65	181.65	- 1.71	6.01
Amer Emerging	417.36	417.36	+ 4.85	
Pacific	240.22	240.22†	- 2.37	0.77
Emerging Mkts	127.30	127.30	- 0.16	0.41
Index Strat Japan	110.45	110.45†	- 0.78	0.28
-do- Pacific Rim	215.80	215.80†	- 1.74	0.97
-do- Cntl Europe	191.84	191.84†	- 2.22	1.52
Index Strat USA	204.33	204.33†	- 0.04	1.38
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	127.24	135.36	- 0.61	
Med Term Bal	112.88	120.06	- 0.51	
Long Term Bal	129.30	137.56	- 0.52	
UK Equity	150.79	160.41	- 0.56	
UK Emerging Cos	90.05	95.79	+ 0.24	
American	160.69	170.94	+ 0.69	
Japan	48.55	51.64	- 0.39	
European	150.74	160.36	- 2.00	
Fixed Interest	93.81	99.79	- 0.61	
Index Linked Gilt	84.53	89.92	- 0.51	
Deposit	89.03	94.70	+ 0.01	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	160.17	168.69	+ 0.21	0.50
Brchl Gth Port Inc	75.91	80.12	0.04	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	66.98	70.69†	- 0.08	3.50
-do- Wwide Port	59.98	63.30†	+ 0.06	0.10
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	705.35	750.37†	- 6.90	0.60
-do- Accum	800.64	851.75	- 7.83	0.60
European Inc	185.93	197.45†	- 3.22	1.02
Amalgam Inc	165.12	174.95	- 2.00	
N America Inc	441.27	469.44	+ 2.18	
Far East Inc	354.69	377.33†	- 2.57	0.17
-do- Accum	368.13	391.63	- 2.67	0.17
UK Dvdd Inc	230.32	245.02†	- 0.95	1.81
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
UK Equity Inc #	100.77	107.77†	- 0.30	4.09
UK Small Cos	73.91	79.04	- 0.30	0.62
British Growth	74.89	80.07	- 0.50	2.56
American Gwth	281.90	301.49†	- 1.10	
Japan Gwth	48.00	51.25†	- 0.20	
Greater China	225.51	241.17	- 3.60	
Pacific Strategy	160.76	171.93	- 0.50	
European Gwth	124.55	133.20	- 0.30	
Intl Growth	168.95	180.68†		
US Index (E)	190.0324	200.0536		3.75
FTSE 250 Ind	94.96	101.55	- 0.40	2.12
Monthly Income	41.04	42.86†	- 0.10	8.73
American Gen	240.90	255.00	- 0.10	
UK Equity Gen	297.40	316.40	- 1.70	1.80
European Gen	271.80	287.10	2.70	0.59
Balanced Ex	130.90	138.80		2.52
Corporate Bd	77.20	79.80	- 0.07	6.61
Japan General	131.20	138.90	- 0.90	
Index & Bear Fonds: Dealing 0171 865 0053				
Gtd UK Index (F)	16840.7	17778.8	- 0.18	4.75
For Granville see Guinness Flight				
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 538 9668				
European	598.60	639.50†	- 7.40	0.12
Gilt & Fixed	133.60	141.60	- 0.50	5.60
Growth Equity	461.30	492.80	- 2.90	1.20
Income Trust	159.20	170.00†	- 0.70	4.00
International	207.90	222.10	- 1.30	
Japan Trust	94.10	100.50†	- 0.70	
Nth American	381.00	407.00	- 0.40	
Pacific	599.80	640.80	- 2.70	
Guardsafe	679.30	725.70	- 3.70	1.22
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	103.93	107.84	- 0.45	4.57
Global High Inc	98.01	101.70	- 0.47	5.33
Corporate Bond	106.09	110.13	- 0.05	6.47
Eqty & Bond Inc	115.88	121.22†	+ 0.02	4.99
European Growth	133.71	142.17	- 1.92	
Intl PEP Trust	72.17	76.73	- 0.79	
Equity Inc	144.48	153.62	+ 0.51	3.64
-do- Accum	214.34	227.90	+ 0.74	3.64
Recovery	429.70	456.80	- 3.20	1.98
-do- Accum	513.30	545.70	- 3.70	1.98
St Vinc High Inc	134.39	136.40	- 4.78	7.76
UK Emerg Cos	323.70	344.20	+ 1.90	2.65
UK Smlr Cos	446.70	454.60†	+ 1.10	2.53
Glob Prm Tst	126.72	134.73	- 2.20	1.41
-do- Accum	131.75	140.08	- 2.28	1.41
Inc Share Tst	94.60	100.58†	- 0.03	8.66
Small Cos	108.31	115.14†	- 0.19	1.58
HALIFAX UT MGRS LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Balanced Inc	57.68	61.16†	- 0.22	3.27
Balanced Acc	62.12	65.87	- 0.24	3.27
Growth	35.35	37.48	- 0.10	1.71
Growth Acc	36.56	38.76	- 0.11	1.71
Income	33.50	35.52†	- 0.21	4.15
Income Acc	36.11	38.29	- 0.22	4.15
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Accumulation 1st	27.69	29.99	- 0.20	2.76
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
High Proualer	101.60	105.00	- 0.60	6.57
Mocal Pickle	254.90	268.30	0.70	2.26
HENDERSON INVESTORS Enquiries: 0645 494949 Dealing: 0645 484646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	387.15	414.25	- 2.15	0.48
Best of Britain	77.67	82.56	- 0.58	2.03
UK Smaller Cos	168.03	180.62	- 0.13	1.03
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	325.14	346.25†	- 2.49	3.21
-do- Accum #	929.55	989.90	- 7.13	3.21
High Income	352.41	376.72†	- 1.66	4.39
Extra Income #	305.99	325.41†	- 1.57	5.94
Pref & Bond	49.47	51.12†	- 0.05	8.30
International				
Ethical	127.92	136.80	- 0.44	1.81
International	318.29	338.33	- 2.62	
Global Bond	54.30	57.15†	- 0.16	5.10
Ind Port 1st	100.88	107.80†	- 0.15	0.63
Global Tech	250.92	269.30	+ 1.38	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	203.33	217.43†	- 2.08	.
European	629.57	666.40	- 5.15	0.30
European Income #	97.39	103.18	- 0.79	3.24
Euro Smlr Cos	198.76	211.92	+ 0.62	0.94
European Value	99.31	105.93	- 0.46	.
-do- Accum	106.83	113.96	- 0.50	
Japan Trust	170.93	181.58†	- 1.77	
Japan Smlr Cos	170.68	180.79	- 1.27	..
Pacific Smlr Cos	230.45	245.51	- 2.69	
North American	339.89	360.58†	+ 1.19	..
American Smaller	178.67	190.71	+ 7.08	
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	167.20	176.80		4.96
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
British	129.86	135.98	- 0.73	1.72
Capital	210.37	220.28	- 1.39	1.36
Dollar	543.34	568.94	+ 2.87	.
Enterprise Gth	453.41	474.77	- 0.78	0.97
European	283.76	297.13	- 3.23	0.19
Far East	322.00	337.17†	- 1.98	0.10
Financial	1111.42	1111.96	- 9.44	1.48
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	26.53	27.60†	- 0.01	6.63
High Yield #	118.56	122.05†	- 0.52	4.80
Income & Growth #	172.36	180.48	- 0.72	3.61
International	290.26	303.96	- 2.27	0.26
Japanese General	158.29	165.75†	- 1.57	...
Japan Tech	71.08	74.43†	- 0.40	
Nat Resources	79.46	83.21	- 0.96	0.64
Portfolio	87.82	91.96	- 0.34	1.08
Special Sits	224.08	234.64	- 1.69	
UK Emerging Cos	140.58	147.20	- 0.95	0.69
US Smaller Cos	164.52	172.36	- 0.23	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	671.50	716.70†	- 5.20	5.44
UK Growth	742.80	792.70	- 5.20	1.43
High Income #	121.20	129.30	- 0.80	5.40
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	663.50	702.20	- 3.70	0.25
European Gwth	152.70	162.40†	- 1.80	0.14
Japan Gwth	214.50	228.10	- 1.50	
Japan Smllr Cos	25.87	27.61	- 0.17	
Asian	65.86	70.29†	- 0.71	0.09
Sing & Malay Gwth	91.72	97.89	- 1.41	
Hong Kong Gwth	179.50	191.40	- 2.90	0.92
Global Bond	20.95	22.12†	- 0.02	5.02
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	176.70	177.60†	- 1.00	3.13
Trade Index	137.00	140.40	- 0.10	2.01
THE FOOTSIE FUND	68.90	69.25†	- 0.54	2.80
Index Funds-International				
American Index	307.00	308.50	- 0.50	0.87
Eurotrack 100	203.90	204.90	- 2.70	1.42
Japan Index	58.60	58.89	- 0.40	0.12
Tiger Index	194.60	199.60	- 1.00	0.14
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	54.05	56.27	+ 0.01	1.13
General Funds				
Managed Dist	91.82	95.60†	- 0.52	1.30
Managed	94.72	98.62†	- 0.53	1.30
Rupert Child Fnd	109.60	114.10	- 0.80	1.92
UK Growth	75.98	79.10†	- 0.35	1.66
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	92.82	95.80†	- 0.57	5.30
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.19	28.08†	- 0.02	7.97
UK Inc & Grth	57.63	63.75	- 0.33	2.12
UK Income #	401.90	418.40	- 2.80	4.08
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	67.25	69.72	+ 0.11	.
Amer Smllr Cos	165.40	172.20	+ 2.10	..
-do- Accum	167.10	174.00	+ 2.19	
Europe Gth	247.90	258.10	- 1.90	.
-do- Accum	256.80	267.30	- 2.00	
Euro Smaller Cos	47.67	49.63	- 0.20	.
French Growth	100.50	104.40	- 1.40	0.18
-do- Accum	108.60	112.80	- 1.60	0.18
H Kong & China	114.40	118.90†	- 1.90	0.31
Intl Growth	68.92	71.70	- 0.57	0.37
-do- Accum	70.23	73.06	- 0.58	0.37
Japan Gth	23.43	24.34	- 0.27	.
-do- Accum	23.43	24.34	- 0.27	
Japan Smaller Cos	28.52	29.63	- 0.18	..
Glob Emg Mkts	97.90	101.98	- 0.20	..
-do- Accum	98.59	102.60	- 0.20	0.11
SE Asia	362.10	377.00	- 4.60	
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	50.81	52.39†	- 0.10	6.10
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690446				
Sector Value Inc #	109.29	115.10	- 0.60	3.61
Sector Value Gwth	110.98	116.80	- 0.60	2.10
Hy 5 Europe	103.80	108.90	- 0.30	2.14
Slater Gwth	199.30	212.60	- 0.80	0.56
New Japan	79.33	83.67	- 0.99	.
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
World Health	215.30	229.00†	- 1.30	..
Income #	230.93	245.67†	- 1.73	4.33
UK Growth	90.54	96.31†	- 0.64	1.80
Intl Growth	86.63	92.15†	- 0.57	0.45
Ecology	108.19	115.09	- 0.38	0.87
European	210.838	223.87†	+ 0.22	0.56
Far Eastern	298.40	317.40†	- 2.30	
UK Special Sits	58.22	62.10	- 0.28	..
-do- Accum	81.26	86.45	- 0.05	...
Master Trust	70.32	74.81	- 0.31	1.35
-do- Accum	81.18	86.38	- 0.38	1.35
Millennium Acc	100.60	107.10	+ 2.90	2.21
N American Gen	264.90	281.90	+ 2.20	..
-do- Accum	306.80	326.20	+ 2.40	
Wwde Sm Co Rec	197.10	209.70	- 2.00	...
-do- Accum	201.20	214.10	- 2.00	.
Pacific Basin	280.80	298.70	- 1.60	..
-do- Accum	281.00	298.00	- 1.70	...
Safety First Acc	96.23	101.30	- 0.30	4.87
Do until 12/1/98 ‡	90.25			
Small Cos Rec	563.50	593.20	- 2.80	1.68
-do- Accum	778.30	819.30	- 3.60	1.68
UK Eq Gth	175.40	186.60	- 0.80	2.34
UK Eq Inc	137.10	145.90	- 0.60	3.80
UK Growth	112.30	119.50†	+ 0.80	1.65
-do- Accum	142.10	151.20	+ 1.01	1.65
Worldwide Gth	351.10	373.60	- 2.50	0.29
-do- Accum	519.40	552.60	- 3.70	0.29
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 673				
American	92.28	98.70	- 0.16	0.70
General	113.19	121.44	- 0.67	2.80
Income	77.60	83.26	- 0.33	5.60
International	73.26	78.60	- 0.56	0.50
Japan	43.57	46.74	- 0.53	
Tst of Inv Trusts	78.01	83.70	- 0.23	1.00
M & G SECURITIES Cust Svcs/Adm Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	551.00	582.00		0.33
-do- Accum	689.70	728.50		0.37
Amer Recovery	641.60	678.58	+ 4.40	0.04
-do- Accum	742.00	784.70	+ 5.10	0.04
Amer Smlr Cos	172.00	181.90†	+ 1.10	
-do- Accum	175.70	185.80†	+ 1.00	..
Australasian	219.80	232.20	- 1.10	1.91
-do- Accum	275.80	291.70	- 1.40	1.91
Capital	1027.80	1086.90	- 7.80	2.75
-do- Accum	1227.10	1297.80	- 9.10	2.75
Charifund	815.70	823.90	- 7.50	5.53
-do- Accum	4261.60	4304.30	- 39.30	5.53
Commodity	494.50	522.00	- 1.70	0.22
-do- Accum	731.20	773.30	- 2.40	0.22
Compound Grth	1160.30	1227.70	- 7.60	2.62
-do- Accum	1282.40	1358.30	- 8.30	2.62
Corporate Bond	26.24	26.33†	- 0.13	7.20
Dividend	45.60	48.20	- 0.50	4.66
-do- Accum	206.80	218.90	- 2.10	4.66
Equity Income	352.10	372.20	- 1.80	5.45
-do- Accum	488.20	516.20	- 2.50	5.45
Euro & General	647.70	684.90†	- 4.10	0.59
-do- Accum	831.80	879.80†	- 5.30	0.59
Euro Dividend	84.20	89.00†	- 0.80	3.71
-do- Accum	108.00	114.20†	- 1.00	3.71
Euro Smlr Cos	52.90	55.90	- 0.10	0.50
-do- Accum	52.90	55.90	- 0.10	0.50
Extra Yield	488.20	516.30	- 7.10	4.80
-do- Accum	1651.20	1746.30	- 24.00	4.80
Fund of Inv Tsts	743.60	786.40	- 0.90	1.81
-do- Accum	1436.50	1519.30	- 1.00	1.81
General	71.90	76.00†	- 0.50	3.84
-do- Accum	215.80	228.20†	- 1.40	3.84
Gilt Income	63.42	63.52	- 0.43	6.70
-do- Accum	185.10	185.38	- 1.35	6.70
Gold	68.20	72.10†	- 0.30	0.37
-do- Accum	81.90	86.50†	- 0.30	0.37
High Income	34.60	36.60†	- 0.20	4.59
-do- Accum	150.60	159.30†	- 1.20	4.59
Intl Growth	90.60	95.80	- 0.30	0.62
-do- Accum	180.40	189.80	- 0.50	0.62
International Inc	113.90	120.50	- 0.70	4.39
-do- Accum	182.80	193.40	- 1.20	4.39
Japan & Gen	30.90	32.60	- 0.30	.
-do- Accum	33.20	35.00	- 0.30	
Japan Smlr Cos	112.20	118.70	- 1.10	.
-do- Accum	113.00	119.50	- 1.10	..
Managed Gwth	27.70	29.30†	- 0.10	1.82
Managed Income	31.00	32.50	- 0.20	4.06
Midland	63.70	67.40	- 0.50	3.10
-do- Accum	224.50	237.50	- 1.90	3.10
Pension Ex	1120.00	1148.30	- 7.40	4.12
Recovery	48.50	51.30†	- 0.40	2.97
-do- Accum	84.20	89.10†	- 0.60	2.97
Second General	77.80	82.30†	- 0.20	3.87
-do- Accum	215.20	227.70†	- 0.60	3.87
Smaller Cos	70.70	74.80	- 0.10	3.41
-do- Accum	146.50	154.90	- 0.20	3.41
Sth East Asia	412.90	436.60	- 3.60	1.02
-do- Accum	553.10	584.80	- 4.80	1.02
Treasury	25.17	25.22	..	5.95
Trustee	45.60	48.20	- 0.30	5.10
-do- Accum	199.30	210.80	- 1.40	5.10
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	102.86	109.53	- 1.24	0.64
Intl Bond	62.08	66.05	- 0.14	4.83
Intl Equity Growth	84.75	90.14	- 0.53	0.60
N Amer Growth	146.18	155.30	- 0.17	0.77
Special Sits Growth	29.55	31.43	- 0.15	1.98
UK Growth	487.56	518.68	- 2.22	2.51
-do- Accum	673.26	716.23	- 3.07	2.51
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1444.90	1487.80		2.90
Income #	1049.30	1086.10†		4.00

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers. 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	102.70	106.20†		6.59
Euro Prfs Inc	107.80	114.70	- 0.70	2.75
-do- Accum	107.80	114.70	- 0.70	2.75
Gilt Yield	120.50	127.10†	- 0.50	6.36
Global Income	238.00	253.70	- 0.80	3.50
High Yield	164.80	175.30†	- 1.30	5.32
-do- Accum	550.30	585.40†	- 4.40	5.32
Money Market	98.50	98.50†	+ 0.01	5.36
Smlr Cos Div	65.91	70.12†	- 0.22	3.23
Tomorrows Co Ex Acc	100.30	101.90		
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	162.00	172.30†	- 0.10	
Asian Growth	330.90	352.00	- 2.90	
-do- Accum	388.90	413.70	- 3.30	
North American	115.80	123.20†	- 0.32	
European Special	134.90	143.50	- 0.90	1.16
European	182.30	193.90†	- 1.60	0.50
-do- Accum	241.40	256.80†	- 2.10	0.50
Global Eqty Inv	123.30	130.90	- 1.00	1.09
Japan	315.00	335.10	- 3.00	
Japanese Special	172.90	183.90	- 1.10	
Smaller Cos	156.00	166.00†	- 0.80	1.01
UK Equity Growth	57.68	61.36	- 0.43	1.63
UK Index Inc	155.90	157.70	- 2.10	3.71
Birchain Tst	108.30	116.50	+ 1.00	2.06
-do- Accum	109.90	118.20	+ 1.10	2.06
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	323.29	343.93	2.64	4.75
Esk Growth	103.42	110.02	+ 0.94	1.36
Inc & Growth Inc	72.49	77.12†	- 0.64	3.67
Smaller Cos	97.79	104.03	- 0.72	1.14
Ever Smll Cos Inc	254.40	270.64	- 0.75	2.19
Ever Smll Cos Acc	459.48	488.81	- 0.45	2.19
Ever Recovery Inc	62.63	66.63	+ 0.30	2.10
Ever Recovery Acc	65.36	69.53	- 0.30	2.10
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01277 690 432				
UK Cap	475.70	504.70	- 3.80	2.14
UK Inc Gth #	502.40	533.10	- 3.50	4.16
UK Income #	360.30	382.30	- 0.80	4.58
UK Sm Cos	329.10	350.90	- 0.90	1.50
Euro Gwth	165.40	175.50	- 2.30	0.16
N Amer Gwth	126.70	134.08	+ 0.20	
Japan Growth	46.49	49.33	- 0.41	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD Enquiries. 01277 227 300 Dealing. 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist	618.40	618.40†	- 4.10	2.57
-do- Accum	1112.80	1112.80†	- 8.00	2.57
Equity Income	108.60	108.60†	- 0.90	4.76
UK Tactical Allocn	70.22	70.22†	- 0.66	4.04
European	149.40	148.40†	- 1.70	0.82
Far Eastern	223.30	223.30†	- 1.00	
Fixed Interest	55.42	55.42†	- 0.07	7.07
Gilt	92.89	92.89	- 0.48	6.11
Global Growth	80.51	80.51†	- 0.39	0.51
Intl Bond	50.45	50.45†	- 0.03	5.37
Japanese	56.00	56.00†	- 0.03	
North American	234.00	234.00†	+ 0.50	0.46
Pacific Growth	127.20	127.20	- 0.50	0.10
UK Index	81.38	81.38	- 0.51	3.07
UK Recovery	122.40	122.40	- 0.50	1.91
UK Smaller Cos	172.00	172.00†	- 0.60	1.18
US Index	90.24	90.24†	+ 0.01	1.09
European Index	93.19	93.19†	- 1.16	1.25
Japan Index	30.13	30.13†	0.20	
Worldwide	101.20	101.20	- 0.60	1.47
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS				
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	171.30	175.30†		3.45
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 0800 363432				
M & S Inv Pfolio	183.40	189.00†	- 0.90	2.45
-do- Accum	219.80	226.60†	- 0.80	2.45
UK Sel Pfolio	165.00	170.20†	- 0.90	2.45
-do- Accum	200.90	207.20†	- 1.26	2.45
UK 100 Cos	123.30	123.30	- 0.80	2.69
-do- Accum	125.88	125.80	- 0.90	2.69
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 642				
Managed Tst	72.51	77.14	.	3.52
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	86.63	92.18†	- 0.51	2.93
European	108.80	115.50	- 1.20	0.83
Income #	88.03	93.45	- 0.63	3.98
Nth American	105.69	112.30	- 0.10	0.14
Far East	181.40	192.60	- 1.70	0.21
Japan	52.15	55.36	- 0.51	
Emrging Mkts	91.08	97.41	- 0.12	0.02
Intl Growth	134.10	142.40	- 0.80	0.37
UK Growth	130.90	139.00	- 0.60	2.45
UK Smlr Co	65.86	69.92	+ 0.08	0.85
Asia Pacific	39.81	42.56	- 0.44	0.37
Glob Gwth PEP	65.08	69.08	- 0.35	0.37
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	103.50	110.20		
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	485.13	516.10	- 4.11	4.39
Global Inc	77.21	82.14	- 0.56	4.26
Bal Leaders	396.81	422.14	- 4.62	3.60
Intl Leaders	238.60	253.83	- 1.49	1.42
P&M Mg Bal Gth	73.57	78.44	+ 0.05	0.44
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	289.40	305.40	+ 0.300	
-do- Accum	309.50	326.60	+ 0.100	
American Opps	139.90	139.60	+ 1.400	
-do- Accum	132.50	141.30	+ 1.400	
British Blue Chip	101.90	107.70	- 0.70	2.23
-do- Accum	131.70	139.70	- 1.00	2.23
Cash	107.20	107.20	.	5.55
-do- Accum	150.20	150.20		5.55
Emerging Mkts	134.60	144.70	+ 0.280	0.10
-do- Accum	136.20	146.50	+ 0.200	0.10
European Growth	336.30	355.80	- 2.90	0.13
-do- Accum	366.70	387.90	- 3.30	0.13
European Income	93.15	98.64†	- 0.83	2.91
-do- Accum	135.30	143.30†	- 1.10	2.91
General	641.20	681.70	- 2.30	1.82
-do- Accum	1312.00	1394.00	- 5.00	1.82
Global Bond	131.70	137.80	- 0.40	5.32
-do- Accum	174.30	183.20	- 0.50	5.32
Gold & General	195.10	208.90	- 1.10	0.43
-do- Accum	201.90	216.10	- 1.20	0.43
Govt Securities	95.64	98.61†	- 0.38	5.89
-do- Accum	205.40	211.70†	- 0.80	5.89
High Yield Bd	103.90	106.40†	- 0.10	6.81
-do- Accum	111.60	114.60†	- 0.10	6.81
Income	208.40	212.70	- 1.00	3.95
-do- Accum	334.70	355.40	- 1.60	3.95
Inc Portfolio #	115.70	122.40†	- 0.50	5.09
-do- Accum #	128.10	135.60†	- 0.56	5.09
Intl Opps	560.00	597.30†	- 1.20	0.15
-do- Accum	756.20	808.70†	- 1.40	0.15
Japan	136.70	145.40†	- 1.00	
-do- Accum	140.30	149.30†	- 1.00	
New Europe	251.10	267.80	- 1.00	0.75

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Shares rally strongly after falls

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	487½	Allied Domecq†	518	..	7.1	12.6
625	477	Bulmer (HP)†	592½	..	2.9	17.6
131	63½	Burn Stewart	71½	..	5.9	78.0
980	815	Glenmorangie A	865	..	1.8	25.3
498	411	Grand Met†	449½	+ 2½	4.5	14.2
493	425	Guinness	438½	+ 1	4.3	13.8
378	316	Highland Dist	341½	- 1	3.8	16.5
803	255½	Matthew Clark	293½	- 4	10.5	13.6
141	91½	Merrydown Wr	107½	..	5.3	14.5
2812½	1875	SA Breweries†	1809½	- 9½	2.0	..

BANKS

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3981¼	2743¼	ABN-AMRO	3930¾	- 46½	3.0	15.6
811	538	Abbey Nat	784¾	- 1½	3.8	14.1
409	315	Allied Irish	387½	- 11	4.5	11.4
380¼	286	Aus New Z	370½	- ½	5.1	
6446¼	3843¾	Bank America	6446¼	+ 19¾		
341½	227½	Bank Scotland	326	- 2	2.8	12.0
1125	683	Barclays	1108½	+ 6	3.2	12.1
580½	413	Bk of Ireland	552½	- 9½	3.8	12.5
8553¾	4931¼	Citicorp	8553¾	+ 62¾		
1575	1281½	Commerzbk	1281½		3.5	
1350	671½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	671½	- 9½	0.6	..
3412½	2709¾	Deutsche Bk	3016¾	+ 59½	2.2	..
805½	593¾	Espirito Santo	781½		4.2	11.3
1587	687½	Fuji Bank Y	687½	- 20½	0.6	..
1480	931	HSBC	1430½	- 14	3.3	13.6
1440	930	HSBC HK	1404	- 11½	3.4	13.3
499½	385	Irish Perm	497½	..	2.9	13.6
487½	294½	Lloyds TSB	459	+ 2½	3.3	19.4
740½	566	Nat Aust Bk	690½	- 2½	5.8	9.6
794½	605½	Nat West	782	- 5½	4.2	11.2
602	464	Royal Bk Scot†	579½	+ 7	4.0	12.8
768	647	Stand Chart	741½	- 1½	2.9	14.5
£174½	£131½	Wells Fargo	£164¾	..	1.9	
362	284	Woolwich	336	- 1½	3.9	11.2

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

PHARMACEUTICALS

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
380	163¾	Brit Biotech	205			
715	348	Cantab Pharms	702½	...		...
693	441	Celltech	620	- 12½		
398	224	Chiroscience	322½	- 1½		..
447	149½	Cortecs	201	- 1½	...	...
1034½	787	Glaxo Well	926½	- 13	4.0	18.6
475	194	ML Laboratories	242½			63.4
286	208	Medeva	272½	+ ½	1.2	15.4
266½	175½	Peptide Thera	240½	- 8		
808	524	Scotia	770	- 15		
266	179	Shire Pharms	225	- 1	...	34.1
96	60	ShyaPharma	80	- 2½		
834½	625½	SmithKline	821	+ 5	2.3	29.7
532	299½	Therp Anti Inc	357			
633	457½	Vanguard	547½	+ 5		
328	192	Xenova	226½	- 1½		
1788½	1218	Zeneca	1642½	- 13½	2.5	35.8

PRINTING & PAPER

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28 JANUARY

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OPERA

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BRITISH FUNDS

1996/97 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
101	100	Treas 7% 1997	100	-	6.98	6.27
107	100	Exch 10½% 1997	100		10.46	5.89
107	101	Treas 8¾% 1997	101		8.63	6.23
114	106	Exch 15% 1997	106	-	14.11	6.34
106	100	Exch 9¾% 1998	103	-	9.45	6.44
109	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	100	-	7.19	6.48
116	109	Treas 14% 1998-01	109	-	12.81	6.58
122	113	Treas 15½% 1998	113		13.61	6.65
117	108	Exch 12% 1998	109	-	11.02	6.66
109	97	Treas 9½% 1999	105	-	9.04	6.71
116	110	Exch 12¼% 1999	111	-	11.04	6.73
112	107	Treas 10½% 1999	107	-	9.73	6.77
99	96	Treas 6% 1999	99	-	6.10	6.73
112	107	Conv 10¼% 1999	108	-	9.44	6.86
108	103	Conv 9% 2000	105	-	8.51	6.91
105	101	Treas 8% 2000	103	-	7.73	6.96
124	117	Treas 13% 2000	118		10.93	6.98
114	100	Treas 10% 2001	110	-	9.07	7.06
101	96	Treas 7% 2001	99	-	7.03	7.09
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
114	108	Treas 9¾% 2002	111	-	8.74	7.20
105	99	Treas 8% 2003	104	-	7.69	7.20
117	110	Treas 10% 2003	114	-	8.76	7.26
121	114	Treas 11½% 2001-04	115	-	9.94	7.08
85	78	Fund 3½% 1999-04	84		4.13	6.07
114	107	Conv 9½% 2004	112	-	8.43	7.31
97	91	Treas 6¾% 2004	96	-	6.97	7.38
109	101	Treas 8½% 2005	107	-	7.93	7.37
114	108	Conv 9½% 2005	112	-	8.42	7.37
131	123	Treas 12½% 2003-05	127	-	9.79	7.28
101	94	Treas 7½% 2006	100	-	7.46	7.41
103	98	Treas 7¾% 2006	102	-	7.59	7.43
104	97	Treas 8% 2002-06	102	-	7.80	7.35
125	115	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	121	-	9.67	7.36
108	101	Treas 8½% 2007	107	-	7.90	7.45
112	103	Treas 9% 2008	111	-	8.07	7.49
104	96	Treas 5% 2009	103	-	7.71	7.54
LONGS (over 15 years)						
89	81	Treas 6¼% 2010	89	-	7.06	7.60
113	104	Conv 9% 2011	112	-	8.02	7.59
114	104	Treas 9% 2012	112	-	8.00	7.60
94	75	Treas 5½% 2008-12	82	-	6.63	7.35
105	96	Treas 8% 2013	103	-	7.73	7.63
102	93	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	101	-	7.67	7.62
106	95	Treas 8% 2015	103	-	7.70	7.60
113	102	Treas 8¾% 2017	111	-	7.87	7.65
106	95	Tr 8% 2021	104	-	7.81	7.60
UNDATED						
46	41	War Ln 3½%	45	-	7.67	
32	29	Treas 2½%	31		7.87	...
51	46	Consols 4%	50	-	7.92	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
114	111	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	114	-	0.24	2.09
185	176	Treas IL 2½% 2001	185	-	2.58	3.23
182	171	Treas IL 2½% 2003	181	-	2.81	3.30
119	112	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	118	-	2.88	3.32
192	179	Treas IL 2% 2006	191	-	3.07	3.41
173	161	Treas IL 2½% 2009	172	-	3.17	3.47
179	166	Treas IL 2½% 2011	177	-	3.26	3.52
148	136	Treas IL 2½% 2013	148	-	3.22	3.56
157	145	Treas IL 2½% 2016	156	-	3.38	3.60
151	138	Treas IL 2½% 2020	148	-	3.46	3.65
126	115	Treas IL 2½% 2024	125	-	3.47	3.65
124	113	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	121	-	3.47	3.65

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هكذا من الأصل

Wanna fix Radio 4? Dump *The Archers*

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it." As one who has been blamed for introducing this American vulgarism into the long debate about the BBC (and who has squirmed to hear it prettied up with Anglicisms like, "If it isn't broken, don't try to fix it," or worse, "... to repair it", I would like to offer a modification. "If it ain't broke, don't say you're going to fix it."

Too late, alas, to offer this sage advice to James Boyle, the new Controller of BBC Radio 4. He has already announced that a radical three-year renovation of Middle England's favourite network is on the way.

Will Broadcasting House never learn? Radio 4 listeners do not like change. They can write irate four-page letters in blue ink to *Feedback* faster than you can say "Dogger, Fisher, German Bight". They have mastered voicemail, fax and e-mail. They tend to get their way. The last thing that any reformer should do is to alert them to mobilise.

BRENDA MADDOX

Boyle, down from BBC Scotland, can't take back what he has said about preventing Radio 4 from becoming a museum piece. That is a pity, because his instincts are good. If I never hear *Breakaway* again (Boyle is already shaking up this 1950s-ish Saturday travel programme, with its appalling theme tune), I will be a happier woman. I might even be able to put up with *The Archers*.

On second thoughts, I wouldn't. Were I in Boyle's shoes, I would boldly go where none has dared and dump this postwar relic of agricultural didacticism. At the very least I would put it into *Farming Today*.

On Sunday, just to be sure I was brave enough to make this nation-shaking proposal, I tuned in to *The Archers* omnibus edition, to find my longstanding prejudices gloriously confirmed. Did anybody think that the cow — the one with the swollen "oodder" — was going to turn out to have mere mastitis? I didn't, not for one minute. But I was wrong to diagnose BSE. An *Archers* script would never be that out of date. The wretched beast, whose dripping milk was (we were told — yuk) the colour of honey, was suffering from the much more topical E-coli infection — the consequence of untrimmed hooves and a mucky yard. A lesson to us all.

My next move would be to jettison all those giggly panel games in which four males laugh themselves sick while a female keeps score. Radio 4 wants younger listeners and it keeps on broadcasting *Just a Minute*? Last Saturday's big wrangle over whether Clement Freud said "buckets" twice or just once is hardly the thing to draw in the young fleeing Radio 1 in the wake of Chris Evans.

Then out would go *PM* at 5pm, which repeats the news and headlines in the same words so often that by the time they are served up again for the six o'clock news, you know them by heart. In its place I would put *From Our Own Correspondent*, a jewel wasted in its Saturday 11.30am setting. I'd say goodbye too to *Thought for the Day* — insulting to non-believers and intrusive to those who take the *Today* programme for the political agenda-setting it purports to be.

I would increase the number of live shows. Radio 4's dangerousness is under-appreciated. As one who is occasionally given the chance to appear on Melvyn Bragg's Monday morning *Start the Week*, I am always astonished by the intensity of response to the programme. Occasionally, I am asked why such and such a person has been given a seemingly hard time.

"You do know the programme's live?" I say. Yes, they do. What they do not appreciate is the awesome prospect of embarking on 55 minutes of unscripted conversation with guests who may have to be prodded to start talking. Prodded or not, American guests tend to leave marvelling that they have been on the airwaves for nearly an hour with no station break, commercial or voices phoning in.

If there is a counterpart to Radio 4 elsewhere in the world, I would love to hear about it. The uniqueness of the network lies in the whole variegated Radio 4 mix. Whether you like *Women's Hour* or hate *The News Quiz* is irrelevant. The Radio 4 audience knows that by and large it will hear intelligent speech to which advance thought has been given and that the menu will offer a change of subject in a short time.

My advice to Mr Boyle would be to forget about age. He is entitled to try to fix Radio 4. But at the start he should say that it is a national treasure.

While the British are talking about introducing the V-chip to black out television programmes parents do not want their children to see, the Americans have done something about it.

But done what? Congress passed a law last February to make the chip compulsory in all new television sets. Then the industry agreed to design a rating system to alert the chip to a programme's content.

The result could be more, not less, sex and violence on television. The Supreme Court ruled in June that when people can block offensive programming for themselves, the law is not justified in doing it for them. According to this week's *New Yorker*, this ruling could allow more unrestrainedly "adult" programme onto screens than before, to be seen by the millions of young children whose parents do nothing whatsoever to control their viewing. A salutary reminder to Britain that the V-chip protects only those children who don't need it.

THE LISTENER

THE NEWS BEHIND THE HEADLINES

Express musical chairs

THE BUDGETARY belt is being pulled ever tighter at *The Express*, where staff complain that their every move is now being monitored by consultants.

Heads of department are frustrated by the failure of the bean-counters to understand that contributers cannot all be paid a flat fee but are remunerated according to the worth of their story. Hacks on the road are infuriated that their expenses are being sent back if a single receipt is out of place.

The scheme to squeeze two floors of editorial staff into one so that the vacant level can be let is working a treat. The sports department, which now has an entire supplement to produce every day, complained that the only way it could fit into its allotted space was to draw up rotas for the shared use of screens.

Any offers?

SCOTLAND on Sunday executives are in panic after a disastrous experiment just before Andrew Neil's arrival as chief troubleshooter at the beleaguered newspaper group. Overnight, they ditched their much-copied business section, demoted Simon Bain, the award-winning editor for eight years, and created The Money Pages, edited by the much-travelled Rob Brown, who promised — rather rashly as it turned out — on the front page that he would "expose the profiteers". The format flopped and Brown resigned after eight weeks.

Neil: unsatisfied?

The section has now lost nearly all of its full-time Scottish business specialists.

In an attempt to satisfy Neil's demand for a credible business section, the paper took the unusual step of advertising the business editor's job on the front page of the section on December 8. It was trumpeted the ad, "one of the most prestigious posts in Scottish journalism". How curious, then, that the tally of applicants for this coveted job should be a figure not unadjacent to, er, zero.

Experienced brain

IT IS never too late to make a starter for ten, according to Ida Staples. At 72, she is about to become the oldest-ever *University Challenge* contestant. The Cambridgeshire pensioner will be representing the Open University when it takes on the University of Wales next Monday.

Mrs Staples, who likes to finish the *Times Two* crossword before breakfast, is studying for a degree in earth sciences. A trained pharmacist, she took an OU arts degree to occupy her mind after she was widowed and now says she can't stop studying. "I am," she says, "a walking advertisement for the OU."

Not so lovely

YORKSHIRE Tyne Tees's decision to replace *Hollywood Lovers* with a repeat of *Whickers World* on January 8 has done the company more commercial harm than it at first thought. Consolidated ratings, recalculated to exclude YTTV from the network's results, show that the Whicker programme gave ITV an audience share of just 26 per cent in the Yorkshire region, against 34 per cent for the rest of the network. The company had claimed ratings just "a couple of points lower" than the rest of the network.

Whicker: low ratings

THEY know how to do things in style at the glossy magazine group Condé Nast. A journalist who recently parted company with the Tatler *received a postcard from the Post Office the other day. It informed her that it had a letter for her which she could have if she paid the 20p postage and a 20p penalty. After trudging across town to the depot, she found that the unstamped letter was not from an absent-minded relative. It was from her erstwhile employer and contained her P45.*

Making waves

GOODWILL might soon be in short supply in Cyprus, where for years islanders living close to British Army bases have been able to receive — free of charge — SSVC, the army television service that broadcasts an amalgam of BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and satellite television programmes (including Premiership football). After two months of what military moles politely refer to as "commercial argy-bargy" with Lumière Television, a local commercial broadcaster, the MoD has reluctantly decided to encrypt the SSVC broadcasts to prevent the locals freeloading.

Forces personnel inside the bases will be able to pick up SSVC as usual; those living outside the perimeter of the bases will be equipped with decoder boxes, courtesy of the British taxpayer. Local entrepreneurs are already competing to see who will be first on the market with a pirate decoder box.

Stretch for the stars

Lineker: ad scored free publicity

ADVERTISING

ADVERTISING executives take heed: forget originality, creativity and art — sex and celebrities are the best way to stretch your advertising pound, according to a survey by Propeller Marketing Communications.

Ads That Make News measures the number of articles about advertising that run in the national press. The survey shows that Wonderbra and Gossard's Glossies scored the most PR spin-off in 1996.

The campaigns scored 51 and 34 mentions respectively, while Bob Hoskins and Rory McGrath secured 48 stories for BT and Gary Lineker garnered 37 hits for Walker's Crisps.

The campaign which most caught the eye of the national newspapers, however, was the Tory party's controversial "demon eyes" pre-election work. This led to a massive 126 national press stories, worth about £5 million in free publicity — not bad for an advertisement that had a media spend of just £125,000.

AN UNSEEMLY row has broken out between adfolk and production companies over who is the most extravagant. The battle has been triggered by an official clampdown on the high cost of advertisements by the Creative Directors' Forum.

The forum believes costs are unnecessarily boosted by profligate production staff who, it claims, have been known to fly personal chefs to shoots, use film-star trailers on set and hire helicopters to travel around.

But production companies are retaliating. They say that creative directors are worse, citing reports of one who sneaked his curtains into his hotel to get them dry-cleaned at the client's expense, and another who had his luggage sent by DHL to avoid carrying "heavy" bags to and from the airport.

THERE seems to be an increasing trend for vanity casting, the process whereby agency staff star in their own ads. Recent sightings have included Kevin Brown, Bartle Bogle Hegarty's media chief, playing a drinker in a Murphy's press ad, and Dave Buonaguidi, the creative director of St Luke's, starring as an office worker in one for Ikea.

It is not clear whether they do this to save money on extras, because they harbour thespian ambitions or whether they just want to earn some cash.

BELINDA ARCHER

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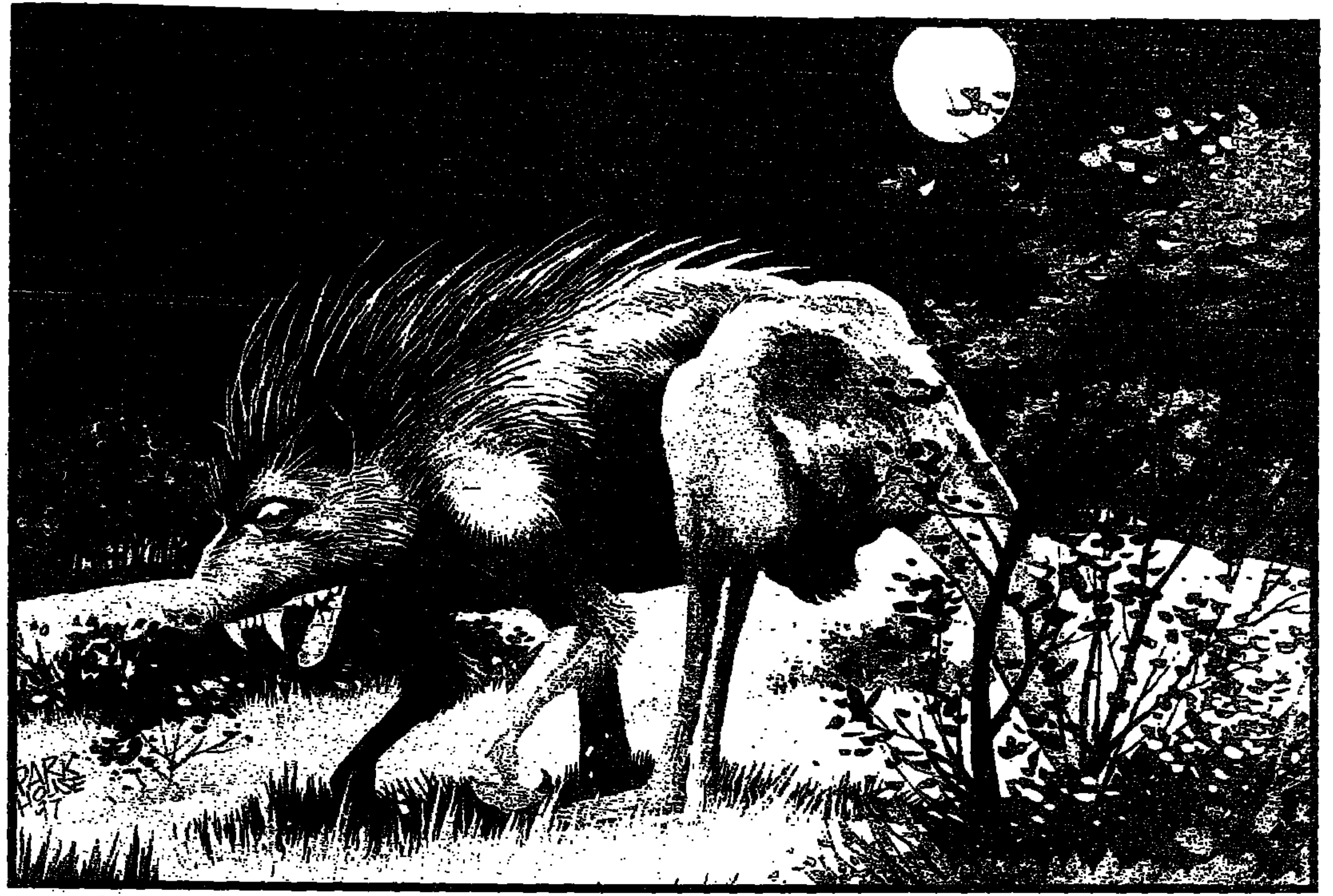
Heaven knows what religion has to do with C4's new slot, says **Maggie Brown**



Day of the vampire: the clips on *Fortean TV* include a beast suspected of killing goats in Puerto Rico by sucking out their blood and livers

Myths and miracles

The programme boasts of screening the world's first autopsy — on a mermaid. It sent a reporter to Puerto Rico in search of a suspected "vampire" which is supposed to have killed hundreds of goats by sucking out their blood and livers.

But just when you think it is getting a bit silly even for Channel 4, viewers are introduced to a shoal of ancient do-gooding Turkish fish which heal skin diseases by nibbling away at the infection.

This is the wacky but professionally produced world of new series *Fortean TV*, which starts an eight-part, prime-time run next week. It is loosely based on the award-winning monthly cult magazine *Fortean Times*, which shot to fame through mysteries such as crop circles, has seen sales spiral from 1,800 to 60,000 in the past five years, and is set to expand further with a spin-off bi-monthly called *Bizarre* next month (cover story: self-combustion, with pictures).

It preaches the notion, suspect but appealing, that science cannot explain everything and that there are happenings outside our ken. It is a magazine message which especially appeals to men, who compose 75 per cent of *Fortean Times* readers. At the very least it provides them with talking points over a pint.

The approach was laid down 70 years ago by an American writer, Charles Fort, through such titles as *Books of the Damned*, and its evergreen, fundamental appeal has been demonstrated recently with a vengeance by programmes such as *The X Files* and the array of popular formats dedicated to the paranormal on both ITV and the BBC in the past two years.

But there is a further strange and very British twist to the tale. *Fortean TV* is styled as a religious programme and is part of Channel 4's agreed portion (52 hours a year) of religious output.

It is presented by an avuncular Church of Wales priest, Father Lionel Fanthorpe, who wears black biker gear and a cheery, middle-aged smile. He ends each screen episode with a happy song. "I hope to establish a link, to show that religion is not cold and fanatical," he says. Surely some mistake.

Not so: Channel 4's commissioning editor for religious programmes, Peter Grimsdale, is proud of the way it stretches the boundaries away from hymn-singing towards the mysteries of the Universe — a shift handily guaranteed to take the series into prime time rather than fringe slots.

Further, the programme has been devised by American-born Peter Stuart, whose dynamic company Rapido specialises in lively, sometimes bad-taste programmes: it makes the revamped *Girlie Show*, *Baadass TV* and *Eurotrash*, which also thrives on a diet of bizarre news.

Fortean TV has abandoned the world of poltergeists and haunted houses in favour of "real life" in real places — but always with a light touch of the surreal. Remember the fuss about the glass building in San Diego which some thought reflected an image of the Madonna? That is prime *Fortean TV* material — except that it has been done. One of the programmes has a sequence about a cinnamon bun which has taken the shape of Mother Teresa, and an aubergine whose flesh, when cut open, carried the Arabic symbols for Allah.

"To me, a world where a nun on a bun can be screened next to an item on dead goats, and the way that hair is growing on a Chilean Madonna contributes to a much richer mix than usual," says Stuart. "This format would allow us to do the world's tallest man, too. It's all very healthy."

Biker: Father Fanthorpe

Grimsdale denies he is engaged in a cynical exercise or seeking to encourage the gullible to retreat to a non-rational mental cave after centuries of painful scientific progress. He has received praise for two series of *Desperately Seeking Something*, in which Peter McCarthy sought out alternative believers and celebrated the summer solstice with a coven of five witches on the Brecon Beacons.

"I expected to have scorn heaped on me," says Grimsdale. "I was genuinely surprised by the reaction. There is a whole sub-culture of belief out there. One of the difficulties for religious programmes is that they have been so tied to conventional ideas. All faiths are full of strange happenings and things called miracles.

"Take the incident of straw falling from the sky in a car park (the series describes this, and also mocks up a report of 20 fish falling on to people's heads from the sky). One hundred years ago that would have been thought of as a miracle. Many people still do think like that. The stories in *Fortean TV* are about things people believe they have seen, unexplained phenomena."

But is it anything to do with religion?

Mike Dash, the publisher of *Fortean Times*, is very pleased with the clips of the shows he has seen so far because they embody the Fortean approach accurately. Science, he repeats, cannot explain everything. But even he is flabbergasted that it is being commissioned as a religious programme.

The Right Rev George Austin, Archdeacon of York, said *Fortean TV* sounded as if it had as much to do with religion as the *Sunday Sport* had to do with journalism as practised by *The Sunday Times*. "I'm not sure this is for serious people," he says. "More for people in anoraks with funny voices. But making modern religious television is a difficult area."

This was formally acknowledged last November in the first published report of the Central Religious Advisory Committee, whose members advise the BBC and Independent Television Commission on religious broadcasting. It drew up a seven-point list of how a programme may fulfil its function as being religious. The list includes "dealing with a view of the life not enclosable by the visible world" and which acknowledged the "spiritual dimension".

What will they make of *Fortean TV*?

● *Fortean TV, Wednesday, January 29, 9pm.*

Seven-day weakness grips the Express

PAPER ROUND

Nicholas Lloyd

Is *The Express* seven-day newspaper experiment beginning to look like a failure? Even the *UK Press Gazette*, the rather cautious trade magazine, talks of the *Express* as "still in free fall".

Certainly the ABC figures for December 1996 make dreadful reading for Lord Stevens's and Lord Hollick's United News & Media group. The average daily sales of the *Express* slumped to 1,134,870, giving it a lead of just 2,500 over *The Daily Telegraph*.

That is a fall of more than 10 per cent compared with December 1995, while the rolling six-month average figure is down 5.3 per cent. Over the same period, the six-month figure for the *Daily Mail* is up 11.3 per cent at 2,090,503.

The Sunday edition of the *Express* is faring even worse. Year on year its sales have dropped 13.6 per cent while *The Mail on Sunday* has continued to edge upwards.

So, despite heavy investment in extra paging and new glossy magazines, has *The Express*'s big idea for one staff to produce a seven-day paper been a failure?

Not surprisingly Stephen Grabiner, chief executive of United Newspapers, says no. "The decline in *The Express*'s fortunes was never going to be turned round in one month or even a year," he says. "It's going to take a long time and a lot of money and we are confident that we will settle on an upward trend."

Mr Grabiner points to his January decision to lower the price of *The Express* to 20p every Saturday as a sign of the company's commitment to invest. The sales on Saturday have risen by 350,000 copies to 1.7 million, he claims, and the Sunday edition is up 100,000 with the help of special 35p vouchers.

Rivals accept that *The Express*'s decision to join the price war, albeit belatedly, has increased this month's sales by about 50-60,000 a day. However, after the heavy investment and a huge redundancy programme, it is difficult to believe that *The Express* is now making any profit.

"Complete and utter rubbish," retaliates Mr Grabiner. "We made money in '96 and we will make significantly more in '97 — anyway the cost of the redundancies has been taken below the line."

Jeremy Deedes, the managing director of the *Telegraph*, accepts that *The Express*'s 20p Saturday price has, for the time being, stopped the rot. "But I believe that we will overtake them soon," he says. "The newspaper world can be very cruel. Their two new weekend magazines are not bad but it is usually a bad time to add new products when you are going downhill, as we have seen at both *The Express* and *The Observer*. If the quality of the rest of the paper is not right it doesn't matter what extra paging or magazines you put in."

Mr Deedes, a former deputy editor of the *Daily Express*, argues that one of the fundamental problems facing his rival is its constant changes in editorial direction.

"One Editor has taken *The Express* downmarket, the next upmarket and so on: those switches are very confusing. It becomes a rollercoaster ride in which readers fall off or jump off and they become more reluctant to return and take a new look."

Mr Deedes does not believe that price cutting will cure the ills of *The Express*, especially so long after *The Times* and *The Sun* cut their prices. "Price-cutting gives readers a false impression of what a newspaper costs to produce and it is difficult to put the price back up without losing sales," he argues.

The Express's chronic problems are rooted more in journalism than in marketing, he argues. "I have always operated on the basis that every successful national newspaper has to provide something that is "the best". *The Times* may have the best letters or perhaps leaders (although I don't believe that myself).

"The *Telegraph* has the best sports and news coverage. The *Mail* is very good at what I call 'white trash' journalism — polemic and women's features — but when you come to *The Express* it's difficult to see where it is absolutely 'the best'."

At Associated Newspapers senior executives believe that the seven-day experiment at *The Express* is a dud. Cynically, they suggest that it was principally a way of sacking 80 journalists to reduce costs rather than a great editorial innovation.

Where seven-day papers with one staff are successful in America, there is little or no competition. In Britain *The Express* faces enormous pressure from 11 national dailies and nine aggressive Sunday rivals. Without a specific editor and staff dedicated to planning and creating a Sunday edition, it is difficult to see *The Express* on Sundays regaining some of the 930,000 copies by which it trails *The Mail on Sunday*.

The gap between *The Express* and the *Mail* continues to widen and in what may prove a major psychological blow to *The Express*, Associated executives claim that the *Daily Mail* is also poised to outsell *The Express* in Scotland where once the Crusader seemed unassailable.

Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers, says: "We welcome the battle and rather than cutting our price we are investing in quality journalism. It is up to the public to decide what they prefer."

Mr Grabiner remains unabashed: "We are very happy with the seven-day venture so far . . . Of course, there is still a lot to do and it won't be done overnight. We are going to put in more money, money that was not available to past editors, and we are doubling the amount of colour."

It is, perhaps, too early to write off *The Express* experiment, but one thing is certain: it will not be able to reverse its decline unless its owners are committed to journalism, rather than cash, for some years to come.

● *Sir Nicholas Lloyd was Editor of the Daily Express from April 1986 to November 1995.*

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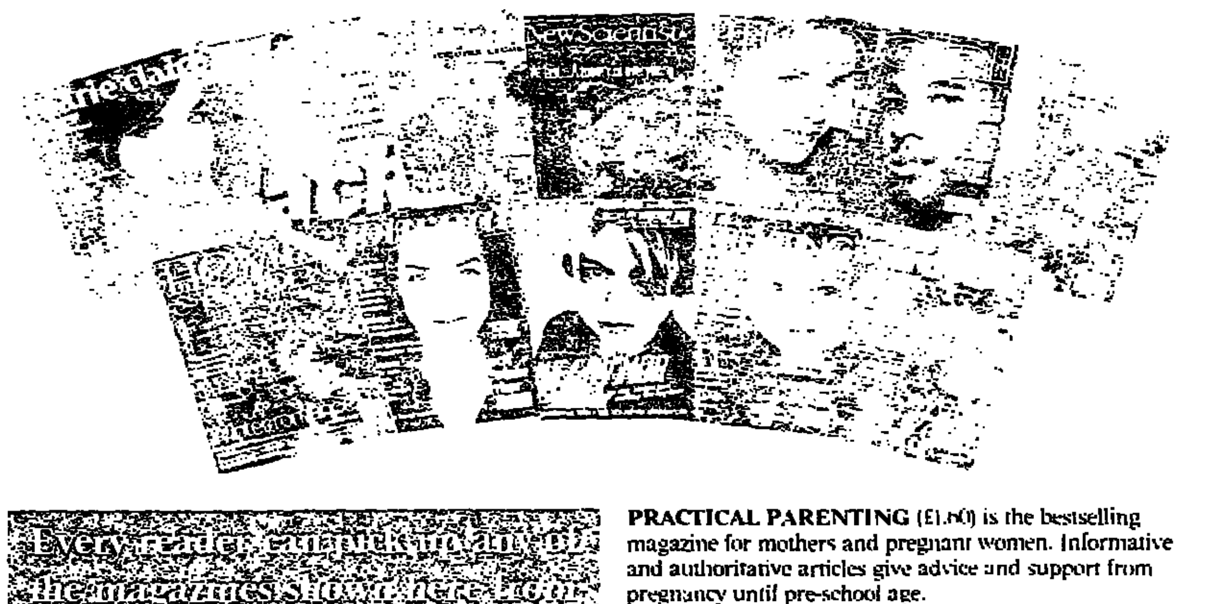

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Sales push for capital property

Christopher Warman reports on the forthcoming Cannes exhibition

This £1.3 million model of London's centre will be used to illustrate the city's attractions to international buyers

Central London's prime properties will be on show this year in Cannes, thanks to an enormous scale model of the capital and its main commercial buildings built by the London model makers Pipers International.

The model is the centrepiece of a concerted London-wide presence at Mipim, the largest international property market in the world, which takes place in March.

The model itself reflects the value of the London market. At 14.5 metres long and 4.5 metres wide, it cost £1.3 million to build. This elaborately-detailed model of London in miniature is the most expensive and biggest of its kind, displaying 30,000 of the capital's buildings, and it took 12 model makers a year to build from wood and Perspex. It covers a total of 39 square miles of central London, from King's Cross to Victoria and from Paddington to London City Airport. The makers claim to have omitted nothing from the London skyline. They are even, cheekily, intending to place in the City the proposed Millennium Tower, Sir Norman Foster's controversial 90-storey building.

Hi-tech wizardry links the huge model to a computer, which can light up office vacancies at a touch. Touch-screen technology can provide further information about the selected site, offering information about not only the building, but details about the surrounding area, including Tube and train connections, restaurants and shops. From the model, international firms will get both an overview of the capital and information about vacant office space.

The model is the brainchild of Barry McKeogh, chief executive of Pipers International, and has been championed by St Martin's Property Corporation Ltd; Greycoat plc; the British Land Company plc; Canary Wharf Ltd; Spitalfields Development Group; NatWest Group Property; SPP; Wates City of London Properties; and Land Securities.

The London stand at Mipim will be the largest at the property show, and will assemble the key groups involved in promoting the capital, such as private sector owners and developers, and organisations including the London Docklands Development Corporation, London First and the City of London Corporation.

Land Securities, which has never previously marketed outside the UK, has signed up. Other exhibitors include Scottish Widows, insurance brokers Bain Hogg, Waterman International, Oscar Faber, The Whinney-McKay-Lewis Partnership, Swanke Hayden Connell, Sheppard Robson, Gensler, BH2, Spitalfields Development Group, St Martin's Property Corporation Ltd, Greycoat plc, Canary Wharf Ltd, the British Land Company plc and international solicitors Stephenson Harwood.

Explaining the enthusiasm for the London stand, John Pike, chief executive and property partner with Stephenson Harwood, comments: "We have taken part since the festival began seven years ago, and we have been part of the London First stand for the past four years. This exhibition allows us to do business with property professionals from all over the world as well as being an excellent way to promote our name to the global market."

● *The Mipim market takes place from March 13-16, and is expected to attract some 7,000 property professionals from around the world. (Further information from David Schindler at Reed Midem. Tel: 0171-528 0086)*

East of London is set for regeneration

Lift-off for Thames Gateway revival

THE feeling of growing optimism in the market, illustrated by the large British presence at the Mipim show, finds another expression with developments affecting the Thames Gateway, the swath of land stretching from the Royal Docks in east London to Tilbury, Essex, on the north bank of the Thames, and from Greenwich to Sheerness in Kent on the south.

Renamed Thames Gateway from the previous East London Corridor when the Government launched a new initiative in 1995, it is the subject of a commitment to stop the drift of development to the west of London.

The Gateway has received endorsement of its importance for the Government by winning over £130 million in regeneration bids — the largest sum for any region.

On February 4 and 5, there is to be a conference on Thames Gateway, organised by Gateway Publishing & Events, which also publishes a magazine, Thames Gateway Initiatives. The event is supported by English Partnerships, the Government's regeneration arm, Thames Gateway London Partnership, North Kent Success, and the London Docklands Development Corporation, which together form the basis for action to regenerate the 4,000 hectares of land available for development.

Speakers include David Curry, the regeneration minister, and Frank Dobson, Labour's spokesman on London and transport — a key ingredient in improving the infrastructure. The decision to site stations on the Channel Tunnel high-speed rail link at Ebbsfleet, near Dartford, and at Stratford, is crucial to future developments.

The conference will also cover the economy, employment benefits, education and technology, tourism and the millennium festival.

Zena Phillips of Gateway Publishing & Events, believes this largest regeneration area in Europe is poised for progress after a slow start. "Two years ago the private sector knew about the Thames Gateway, but did not know what was happening because the marketing was not effective. We do notice now an unsurge in interest. It is beginning to happen."

Conference information from Ms Phillips. 0171-536 9060

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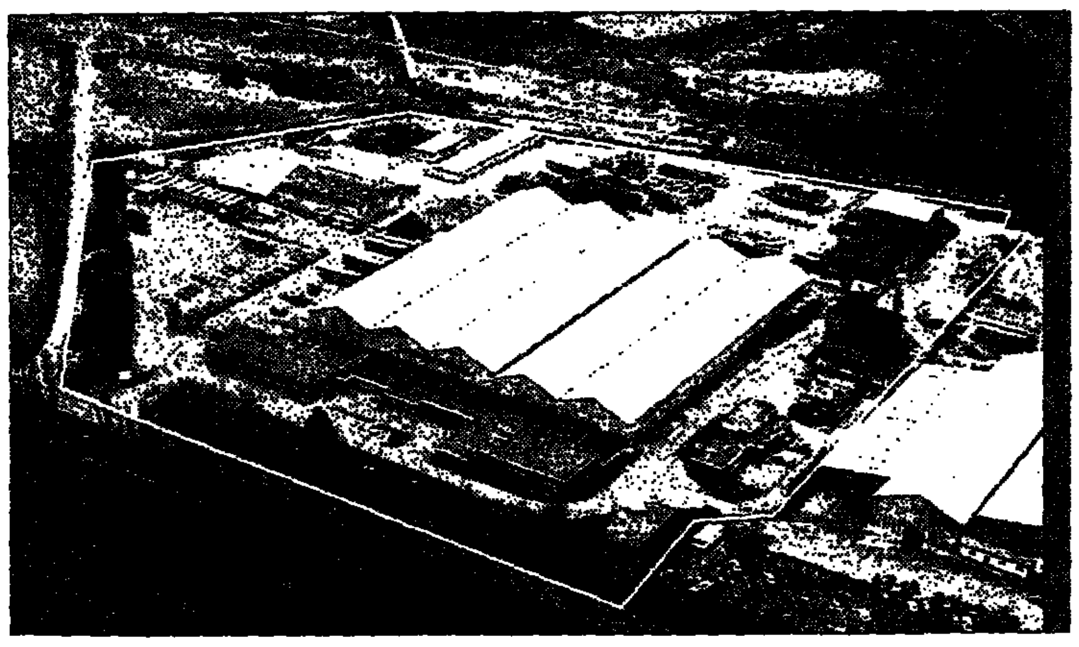

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■ OVERSEAS

Terry Farrell's new £11m building in Hong Kong signals the British Council's Chinese ambitions

■ MUSIC

Castanets out: the guitarist Paco Peña brings his flamenco troupe back to London

THE TIMES ARTS

■ RISING STAR

With 16 theatre productions under her belt, Vicky Featherstone takes over at Paines Plough

■ OFFER

Special prices to watch Anthony Newley playing Scrooge: see the Theatre Club panel for details

Flying the cultural flag in Hong Kong

From Nigel Kennedy to the RSC, British artists will still be going east after June. **Simon Tait** reports

Next week, in almost the last royal duty to the Crown Colony of Hong Kong, the Princess Royal will open the British Council's striking new building. Designed by Terry Farrell, with its prow-like façade pointing imperiously down Supreme Court Road into the skyscraper-congested Central District, the new headquarters is a defiant British statement.

But why, just five months before Britain hands dominion over Hong Kong to the Chinese, has the British taxpayer stumped up £11 million for such a gesture? The answer is that the British Council is not only staying in Hong Kong after the handover, but expanding its operations throughout China.

Better known overseas than at home, the British Council was founded more than 60 years ago as a propaganda agency and has developed into a global cultural mission. In 1948 its Hong Kong operation was set up in a couple of Nissen huts, and its principal job remains the teaching of English. This not only spreads English-language culture globally, but also earns Britain £7 billion a year and opens up trade opportunities.

Hong Kong and China now constitute the prime target for the council's cultural ambitions. "The arts are vital to us, and not just as a safety valve when all other outlets have been repressed; they are of long-term benefit politically and economically," says Tom Buchanan, director of the British Council in Hong Kong. "If you want to project an image of Britain's connection with the avant-garde and innovation, which we must here, it's through the arts that you can do it. So we must play that card for all it's worth."

The council's apolitical nature is sacred. Next door to the new building is the British Consulate which will be our diplomatic presence, and Buchanan had to insist that the flagpole which was to have stood equidistant between the two should be moved as far away from the council building as possible, so as not to prejudice the political neutrality on which he trades.

He looks beyond Hong Kong post-1997, to the potential goldmine across the border. China has said that it plans to build 10,000 new cities and the British, Americans, Australians, French and Germans are all jostling for the trading contracts that this bold pledge implies.

Hong Kong has anticipated the shift for years without quite knowing the implications. "Nobody overplays the political changeover," says Lo King Man, director of the Academy for Performing Arts, which was founded in 1986 with British Council help. "But perhaps we didn't move fast enough to distinguish our own cultural identity. The line between Western and Oriental culture is not all that clear."

The APA is a partner in one of the most ambitious artistic events of the changeover, when the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields comes in June with Nigel Kennedy and Julian Lloyd Webber. The 40-strong chamber orchestra will be augmented by the brightest local students to create a full symphony orchestra, plus chorus, for a rendition of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

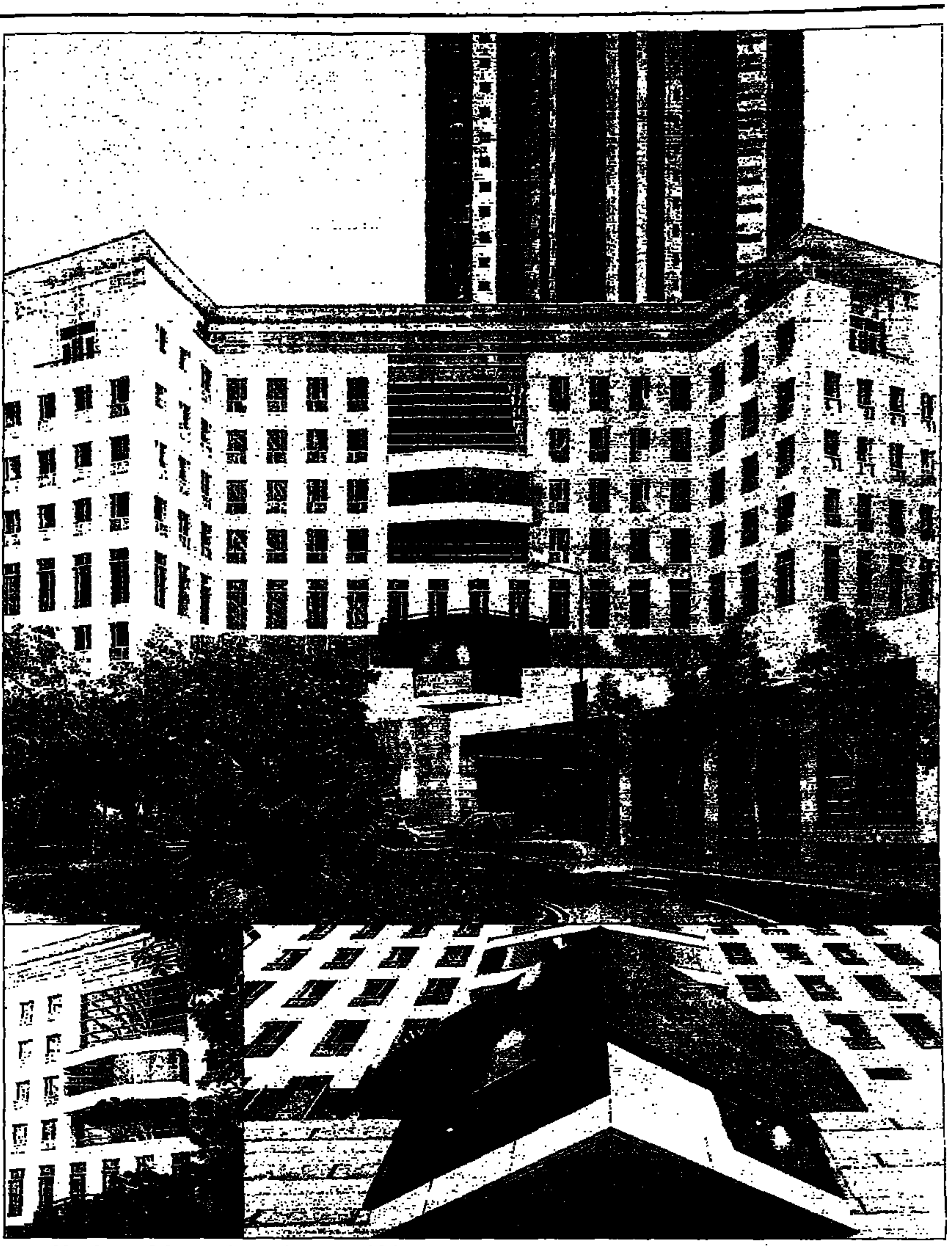
> ‘We must play the arts card for all it's worth’

Then in August the London Contemporary Dance School comes to the APA to give workshops and performances; in March the jazz composer Stan Tracey will bring his band, followed in April by the Richard Alston Dance Company. Both will tour mainland China, as will the Academy of St Martin, with British Council help.

The urban and regional authorities of Hong Kong also rely heavily on British Council support to bring British performers to their impressive venues. Urban Services run the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, which comprises a 2,200-seat concert hall, where the Academy of St Martin will perform, and the London Sinfonietta and English Chamber Orchestra are due to make return visits in 1997. There is also a 1,700-seat theatre which has put on *Les Misérables* and *Phantom of the Opera* in the past 18 months, and in 1998 hopes to stage *Miss Saigon*: Cheek by Jowl is due this year, and negotiations are looking good with Nottingham Playhouse for its *Animal Farm*.

Each of the outlying New Territories communities has its own theatre of around 1,800 seats, hosting the likes of the National Youth Music Theatre, the Philharmonia and the Hallé. But in June the highlight is likely to be the latest work of the collaborative English-Chinese company Chung Ying Theatre, with a children's play by the English lecturer Dino Mahoney about a child's flight through time from 19th-century Britain to modern Hong Kong on the back of a dragon. It is one of eight productions that Chung Ying has scheduled for this year, subsidised by the new Hong Kong Arts Development Council, which is modelled on the Arts Council of England.

After the Chinese New Year in February the Hong Kong Arts Festival begins, bringing the RSC's *Midsummer Night's Dream* and — a surprise box-office success — the opera *Marco Polo*, commissioned by the Edinburgh Festival but so far never performed there. Kau Ng, the festival's executive director, is cautiously optimistic. "Some in the arts community may have worries about what will happen, that more Chinese arts will be forced on us, but we have been told it is the intention to keep the system here as it is. The importance of the British Council in this has been longstanding and we are looking long into the future with them." And what of the spread into China? The British Council has offices in Peking and Shanghai, and a third opens this summer in Guangdong, formerly Canton, the province adjacent to Hong Kong.



Looking beyond the handover: the new British Council headquarters in Hong Kong, designed by Terry Farrell

Skirting issues in no little style

DANCE

Hit and Run
Dublin

IT WAS hard to know what to expect from Project Arts Centre's new temporary home — the Mint, down an alley and above a pool hall — and CoisCéim Dance Theatre is mischievously happy to exploit any uncertainty. Leading the audience into a bare studio setting, the company began to claim the space by jostling and flirting with their guests, many of whom obligingly took their seats on the floor, only to find when the lights came up a few moments later that the cast had all filtered off-stage and were now sitting in the auditorium, glowering at them.

It is CoisCéim's self-appointed task to take in hand popular notions of contemporary Irish dance and lead them into fresh territory, far from any showbizzy Celtic extravaganza. The company's approach has been to create work that might as easily be called physical theatre as dance. *Hit and Run*, their latest production, does contain passages of straight-ish dance, but even then dancers are as likely to be moving to the sound of distant gunshots, police sirens or movie dialogue. *Riverdance* it ain't.

Soundscapes by Bell Helicopter (Conor Kelly and Sam Park) are the key here, their crisp, clear 3D found sounds setting the tone, defining the space in which the dancers work every bit as much as Stephen McManus's cage of thin, bright light, or the cut-up video projections.

The strong setting provides an apt platform for some equally exciting work from CoisCéim's dancers. A sex scene becomes a hilarious and surreal whirlpool of apologies and intertwined limbs: a joust between the male and female cast members leaves David Bolger (choreographer of the piece) hunched on the floor covered in blood, pleading for help that never arrives.

Particularly outstanding was Simone Litchfield, who danced with a degree of arrogant funkiness startling even here, where that quality was hardly in short supply.

Hit and Run's most obvious shortcoming was that while taking on the subjects of urban Dublin, the piece never explored them in any real sense. Instead, Bolger's choreography uses crime and violence as a springboard producing any number of great moments, without ever taking an authorial line. If Irish dance really is growing up, it may have to take more responsibility for its actions.

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The world's best flamenco guitarist – probably – is in his second home for a concert season. **Joanna Pitman** reports

Reign of Spain falls mainly on Peña

If you did not already know who Paco Peña is, you would not have much of a chance trying to guess his profession by just looking at him. Unless, that is, you make a point of studying people's hands. His are a giveaway. Small and delicate, but powerful, they could easily belong to a concert pianist, but Peña is a flamenco guitarist, a man whose heart lies among the hot rhythms and drumming heels of his native Spain.

There are those who would say that he is *the* flamenco guitarist, the best in the world. And he may well be. We will be able to judge for ourselves when his troupe begins a month-long residency at Sadler's Wells Peacock Theatre on February 4.

"London has always been good to me," he says. "I first came in the mid-1960s as an accompanist with a flamenco group. I had a small solo spot and it was an enormous success, so much so that it almost frightened me. I couldn't believe how popular solo flamenco guitar could be, because in Spain guitarists always play with the group."

When Peña returned in 1968, his first concert was at the Festival Hall, where he shared the stage with Jimi Hendrix. "He was the lead act, but it was a sort of guitar festival in which I had the flamenco slot. Again I got an amazing response. A fire was lit in me and I started doing concerts all around Europe. But somehow London was where people had the strongest craving for exotic things like flamenco."

In the early 1970s he set up his own flamenco group. "We had the absolute minimum, just a singer, myself on the guitar and a husband and wife team of dancers. They were stunningly beautiful together, subtle and correct. We always performed authentic, traditional flamenco. That has always been my aim, to keep as close as possible to the real flamenco."

The "real flamenco", however, is difficult to pin down. For a start, it is never written down (anything scored on a page will be phoney, Peña says). Its musicians obey no laws but those of gravity, and the music and movements seem to exist only in the minds of their maker. "None of us can read music," Peña says. "Only the most basic structure is decided in advance and the rest is improvisation."

And that is how it always has been, ever since the beginnings of flamenco in the late 15th century, when the Spanish reinvasion left Andalusia in turmoil, with Arabs, Jews and Gypsies wandering the hills, dispossessed and destitute, huddling together for cultural warmth and producing the songs of persecution and suffering that have become the core of the repertory.

Paco Peña: "London has always been good to me"

"The present form of flamenco crystallised about 250 years ago, but more recent musical trends from all over the world have had some influence on the development of sounds," Peña says. "It is more sharply rhythmical, more syncopated with more aggressive harmonies. Jazz has been absorbed too, but we also try to stay as true to the original as possible."

Peña was never taught flamenco — in fact, he claims it is virtually impossible to teach it. Rather it is a sort of frame of mind, a natural instinct. Peña himself has the prototype flamenco background; his life has been moulded with the single intention of rising out of the poverty of his birth.

He grew up in a family of nine children, sharing a house with ten other families in Cordoba. "We were poor, we were crowded. But we had a sort of communal spirit. Whenever there was a feast, everyone would sing or dance or play the guitar, improvising as we went along. My elder brother had a guitar and he taught me a few chords when I was six. I saw that it was the only thing that might take me out of that house. I joined folk music groups and then at 14 I started travelling."

Peña has come far since those days. Now 54, he recently gave 50 performances in a month in Australia, and he has performed in 12 countries in the past year. But flamenco is his life's fuel and every so often he has to return to Cordoba to recharge his batteries. London, however, remains second in his heart — as long as it continues to give him a warm welcome.

● *Paco Peña Flamenco Dance Company is at the Peacock Theatre (0171-314 8800) from Feb 4 to March 1*

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

VICKY FEATHERSTONE

Age: 29.

Profession: New artistic director of the Paines Plough touring theatre company.

How did she get the job? Through an interview; 180 people applied and she convinced the panel that she was more committed to new writing and regional theatre than anyone else.

What did she say? Statements such as: "New writing has become increasingly fashionable recently and it is up to Paines Plough to ride the crest of that wave," and: "It is important to create and develop new works to further our literary heritage."

Does she not feel that she might be too young? "I know it sounds arrogant, but not really. I've done so many different things and I feel that this job ties them all together. I relish the opportunity to stand up and be counted."

What experience has she had? A lot. She studied drama at Manchester University, and after deciding that she was never going to make "a terribly good actress" she turned to directing. She has been an assistant director and the 1994 festival director at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, a project director at Northern Stage in Newcastle, the resident director at the Octagon Theatre in Bolton, and the associate director of the Bush Theatre.

What sort of works has she directed? At least 16 plays, ranging from *A Christmas Carol* to *Kvetch* and from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to *The Glass Menagerie*. Plenty of new works too.

How about long-term plans? Can we expect her to go to Hollywood? "That depends on my bank manager! I loved working in TV, but I realise now that I always want to stay in theatre. I have a huge belief in its power."

GUY WALTERS

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERS

THE TIMES THE THEATRE CLUB

LONDON
King's Head Theatre
To Jan 26
● AS A pianist, Janet Edwards has given recitals at the Wigmore Hall, the South Bank and the Barbican. As a musical director she has worked on a Royal Gala at Drury Lane. As a singing coach she has worked with Sarah Brightman and Boy George. Now, in her one-woman show *S'Wonderful, S'Marvellous*, she sings and plays her own arrangements of works by the century's finest songwriters, including George Gershwin, Stephen Sondheim, Noël Coward and Jerome Kern. Tickets £6 (normally £10) for all except Saturday evening performances. Tel 0171-226 1916, quoting your membership number

Phoenix Theatre
To Feb 27
● NOW in its tenth year, Willy Russell's award-winning musical *Blood Brothers* continues to bring audiences to their feet every night. Best available seats £16 (normally £27.50) for any Mon to Thurs evening performance. Tel 0171-369 1733

Dominion
To Jan 30
● ANTHONY NEWLEY stars as the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge in Leslie Bricusse's *Scrooge — The Musical*. The show finishes its limited run on February 1, so don't miss it. Best available seats £12.50 (normally £27.50) for Mon to Thurs performances. Tel 0171-416 6052

Shaftesbury Theatre
To Jan 31
● NOMINATED for eight Olivier Awards, *Tommy*, Pete Townshend's story of the deaf, dumb and blind boy turned pinball wizard is a theatrical event. Tickets for Mon to Fri evening and Saturday matinee performances are £25 (normally £30 or £32.50) and £22.50 (normally £27.50 or £30) respectively. Tel 0171-379 5399

DUNDEE
Dundee Rep Theatre
Jan 30-31
● TWO tickets for the price of one (normally £7 to £11) for Terrence McNally's *Frankie and Johnny*. Tel 01382 223530

HUDDERSFIELD
Lawrence Batley Theatre
Jan 31, Feb 4
● TWO £6 to £10 tickets for the price of one for Charlotte Keatley's *My Mother Said I Never Should*. Tel 01484 430528

BOLTON
Octagon Theatre
Feb 21, 28, Mar 7, 14
● TWO tickets for the price of one (normally £9 to £12.75) for Mike Leigh's *Abigail's Party*. Tel 01204 520661

BIRMINGHAM
Birmingham Rep Theatre
Feb 11-14, 17-21 (7.30pm)
● SAVE £2 on tickets (normally £14.50 to £16.50) for Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*. Tele 0121-236 4455

BASINGSTOKE
Haymarket Theatre
To Feb 8
● SAVE £5 on tickets (normally £10 to £13.50) for Tues to Fri evening performances of Stephen King's thriller, *Misery*. Tel 01256 465566

PLYMOUTH
Theatre Royal
Jan 29-31
● TWO £7.50 tickets for the price of one for Nick Darke's swashbuckling *The King of Prussia*. Tel 01752 267222

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■ CHOICE 1

Hunks on the hoof: the dancing Aussies of *Tap Dogs* hit the road

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Churchill, Bromley

■ CHOICE 2

Timothy West, and son, star in a touring production of *Henry IV*

VENUE: Now at the Cambridge Arts Theatre

THE TIMES ARTS

■ CHOICE 3

Joshua Bell and friends play Mozart and Tchaikovsky

VENUE: Tonight at the Wigmore Hall

■ POP

Sound and fury, and a good time all round: the Black Crowes play a rousing gig in Cambridge

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

FANTASTICAL VOYAGE: As part of the London International Mime Festival, Gavin Robertson and Andy Taylor present the London premiere of their 1996 Edinburgh hit *Fantastical Voyage*. Inspired by the special effects of Ray Harryhausen in films such as *Jason and the Argonauts* and *One Million Years BC* this entertaining physical theatre piece tells the story of Commander Harry Pepper and his sidekick Tom as they wage one battle after the next with dinosaurs, Titans and ancient curses.
Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight-Sun, 8pm.

TAP DOGS: Dein Perry's sextet of dancers in working-boots returns to its building-site set. High energy stuff.
Churchill, Bromley (0181-460 6677). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.45pm; Fri and Sat, 6pm and 9pm. Until February 1

WIGMORE HALL: In this evening's rush-hour concert (6pm), Michael Collins, clarinet, and Kathryn Stott, piano, perform Brahms's Sonata in F minor, Martinů's Sonatine and Weber's Grand Duo concertante. At 8pm, it is returns only for the second of three concerts in the Mozart-Tchaikovsky festival, devised by Joshua Bell, violin. With Paul Neubauer, viola, Steven Isserlis, cello, and the Orion Quartet.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 6pm and 8pm.

ELSEWHERE

CAMBRIDGE: Father and son, Timothy and Samuel West, star in English Touring Theatre's production of Shakespeare's epic, **Henry IV, Parts I and II**. With Gary Waldhorn.
Cambridge Arts, 6 St Edward's Passage (01223 503333). Tonight, 7.45pm. Next in **London**: Old Vic (0171-928 7616), Jan 27-Feb 22

COVENTRY: **V-Tol Dance Company** presents its trademark combination of fiercely physical choreography, ingenious staging and filmed drama in *By Force of Fantasy*. In the second of three recitals celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Franz Schubert, **Peter Donohoe** performs a selection of solo piano transcriptions by Liszt and Rachmaninov of Schubert's occasional songs. The programme ends with Schubert's Sonata in A.
Warwick Arts Centre, University of Warwick (01203 524524). V-Tol tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm; Donohoe tonight, 8pm ♿

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool Repertory Theatre presents a radical version of Mozart's opera, **The Magic Flute**, set in modern-day Manhattan.
Playhouse, Williamson Square (0151-709 8363). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, and Sat, 4pm. Until February 8 ♿

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: The Shibata Gift of Arita Porcelain (0171-636 1555)
Chalk Farm: Present contemporary work by Sarah Keevil, Helen Lynch, Judy Pickering (0171-267 3300)
Chris Beetles: The British Art of Illustration, 1780-1996 (0171-839 7551)
Design Museum: Charlotte Perriand Modernist Pioneer (0171-378 6055)
Dulwich Picture: Dramatic Art Theatrical Paintings from the Garrick Club (0181-693 5254)
European Academy/Accademia Italiana: Twentieth Century Italian Art from Symbolism to Scuola Romana (0171-235 0303)
Llewellyn Alexander: Peter McArdle — One Man Show (0171-620 1322)
Lisson: John McCracken (0171-724 2739)
Ragged School Museum: Land of Laundries (0181-980 6405)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **ALL OF YOU MINE**: The refurbished theatre, in a pub renamed the Fringe and Firkin (geddit?), re-opens with a new play by the excellent Richard Cameron, set in a Yorkshire mining village where, as usual, guilty secrets emerge. Simon Usher directs.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm

■ **ART**: Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott in an exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white canvas. Matthew Warchus directs.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm; Sat and Sun, 5pm

◪ **THE CHERRY ORCHARD**: Tremendous RSC cast, headed by Penelope Wilton, Alec McCowen and David Troughton, in a production by Adrian Noble.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**: Jonathan Miller's 1930s update makes the lines witty in unexpected directions. Robert Swann, Norman Rodway, Angela Thorne head a strong cast.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3pm. Until February 1

☐ **NINE**: Yeston/Kopit musical based on Fellini's *8½*. Style elevated above substance. Pretty frocks.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **PLUNDER**: Griff Rhys Jones and Kevin McNally in merry, though terribly snobbish, Ben Travers farce. Kevin McNally and Sara Crowe also in the cast. Peter James directs.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm

◪ **SCROOGE**: Anthony Newley back on the West End stage singing the title role in the Leslie Bricusse musical.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-636 2295). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm

☐ **THE SHIFT**: Andy Lavender's production uses slide and video technology for Clare Bayley's exploration of crises in the lives of three women in 1947, 1968 and 1997.
Young Vic Studio, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm. Until February 1

■ **SHOPPING AND F***ING**: Mark Ravenhill's powerful drama about a distressed generation, rotted by economic and sexual abuse, returns for four weeks. Max Stafford-Clark directs for Out of Joint.
Circle Space, Royal Court Theatre Upstairs at the Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 8.45pm. Until February 1

☐ **SNOWSHOW**: Award-winning and engaging show by the Russian clown Slava, with the Brazilian Angela de Castro. Not only has theatrical snow but a truly amazing spider's web.
Peacock, Portugal Street (off Kingsway), WC2 (0171-312 1996). Tonight, then Jan 24 and 25, 29-30, 8pm; mat Jan 26, 4pm. Until January 30

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Criterion (0171-369 1737) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (0171-494 5070) ◪ **Grease**: Cambridge (0171-494 5080) ◪ **An Inspector Calls**: Garrick (0171-494 5085) ☐ **Jolson**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) ☐ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) ☐ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **THE GHOST AND THE DARKNESS** (15): Man-eating East African lions cause trouble for Val Kilmer and Michael Douglas. Historical action drama with intellectual trimmings. Director, Stephen Hopkins.
Empire (0990-888 990) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031)

PICTURE BRIDE (12): Timorous period drama about arranged marriages in Hawaii. With Youki Kudoh.
Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721)

◆ **THE PREACHER'S WIFE** (U): Antiquated Christmas whimsy in modern packaging, with Denzel Washington, Whitney Houston and Courtney Vance. Director, Penny Marshall.
Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990-888 990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

WALKING AND TALKING (15): Emotional adventures of young New Yorkers. Pleasant if flimsy American indie, directed by Nicole Holofcener. With Catherine Keener, Anne Heche.
Everyman (0171-435 1525) **Metro** (0171-437 0757) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

CURRENT

◆ **BRASSED OFF** (15): Yorkshire colliery band fights for survival. Sugary comedy with a few drops of vinegar. With Pete Postlethwaite, Tara Fitzgerald.
ABC Panton Street (0171-930 0631) **Odeons: Mezzanine** ♿ (0181-315 4215) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Riverside** (0181-741 2255)

I SHOT ANDY WARHOL (18): Mary Harron's incisive portrait of Valerie Solanas and the Warhol circus, with a wonderful performance from Lili Taylor.
ABC Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

◆ **MATILDA** (PG): Exuberant telling of Roald Dahl's subversive tale about a precocious girl (Mara Wilson) who triumphs over pesky adults. Danny DeVito co-stars and directs.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **101 DALMATIANS** (U): Glenn Close knocks spots off the dogs in the live-action edition of the cartoon classic. With Jeff Daniels and Joely Richardson.
Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Mezzanine** ♿ (0181-315 4215) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

ROBINSON IN SPACE (PG): More sprightly, visually idiosyncratic musings on English life, culture and politics from the director of *London*, Patrick Keiller.
ICA Cinema (0171-930 3647)

◆ **STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT** (12): Patrick Stewart's Enterprise crew battles the Borgs. Acceptable adventure, if a little too serious.
Empire (0990-888 990) **Odeon Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Plaza** ♿ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **SURVIVING PICASSO** (15): Anthony Hopkins as Picasso the womaniser: an interesting film but an unsympathetic hero.
Minema (0171-235 4225) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Screen on Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

POP AND JAZZ: Maximum R&B from Georgia; dancing with the Brats; a true original on piano

Stoned by Crowes

The Black Crowes
Cambridge

It is easy to see why the Black Crowes enjoy such popularity, particularly with an audience too young to have seen the Rolling Stones in their pomp. At times the band sounds as if it is giving us the follow-up to the sublime *Exile on Main Street* that the Stones never made. No wonder the old boys invited the Crowes to play support on 1995's *Voodoo Lounge* tour: somebody had to show it can still be done.

The Crowes sounded magnificent at the start of their British tour at the Cambridge Corn Exchange. This was an old-fashioned rock band in its prime, full of sound and fury signifying — well, to be honest, nothing much more than having a good time.

Hailing from Atlanta, they are an irresistible part of the great Southern tradition of boogie bands, the twin guitars of Rich Robinson and Marc Ford often recalling the heyday of the Allman Brothers and Lynyrd Skynyrd, with more than a passing nod to Little Feat. The songs may not be particularly memorable, but the riffs are the kind that indelibly implant themselves in your brain, whether you like it or not. Much of the material was drawn from their most recent album, *Three Snakes and One Charm*. But the best song of the night was not one of their own but a dynamic version of Gram Parsons's *She*, spotlighting Chris Robinson's classic rock voice.

Less appealing was one of the tantrums for which the singer is developing a reputation after someone threw beer at the stage. However stupid the incident, his response was petulant and equally reprehensible. Thankfully, Robinson swiftly apologised and the Crowes got back on track.

The average age of the largely student audience was early twenties, and most of the band's young followers would probably laugh if you told them that the Stones were once the greatest live rock'n'roll band in the world. The rest of us were left sighing over the memories the Black Crowes brought back.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

The Black Crowes, still working on the perfect follow-up to *Exile on Main Street*

No time to be aloof

NME Brats Vibes Night
Rocket, N4

NOW established as an annual ritual, the Brats awards were initiated by the *New Musical Express* three years ago as a response to the pop industry's ailing Brits ceremony. One spin-off from this alternative celebration of modern music is the pre-awards build-up, which includes a week of London shows featuring mostly new and leftfield talents. Kicking off this run last Saturday night was the *Vibes* all-nighter at Highbury's Rocket Club, a showcase of experimental dance music attended by 1,200 revellers and a smattering of minor rock stars.

Two years ago, at the first of these Rocket gatherings, the rapid-fire chatter of jungle was a mere sideshow. Since retitled drum-and-bass, this powerful new form proved to be all-pervasive on Saturday, infiltrating not just the carefully textured electronic landscapes of **Spring Heel Jack** but also the stark computerised symphonies of **Mu-ziq** and **Bochum Welt**. In addition, there was a dedicated drum-and-bass room where DJs dished out relentlessly aggressive beats to a largely packed dancefloor.

But there were other rackets on offer. One of the loudest came from Amsterdam's Jeroen Hofs, alias **Eboman**, whose brutally mangled and distorted set veered dangerously close to thrash metal at times. Birmingham quartet **Bentley Rhythm Ace** provided an hour of equally energetic junk-shop funk, glossing over their occasional lulls by flaunting comical stage uniforms of police helmets and fluorescent radiation suits.

Brighton's **The Aloof** slowed the pace down with their more traditional, song-based approach, delivering the odd anthem and several rumbling torch songs. But they were the exception, an oasis of soulful calm in an otherwise enjoyably noisy night.

STEPHEN DALTON

Flying solos

Andrew Hill
Queen Elizabeth Hall

ALTHOUGH the pianist Andrew Hill is among the most prominent survivors of Blue Note's 1960s heyday, he does not fit easily into any of the musical categories — chief among them hard bop or soul jazz — most frequently associated with the label. His music has always been highly individual, relying for its considerable effect on almost imperceptible shifts of rhythm and timbre.

His following is small but passionate, and the London-based branch was out in force for this concert, drawn not only by the rareness of Hill's British gigs in recent years, but by a prestigious rhythm section. Bassist Reggie Workman is best remembered for his work with John Coltrane, but has lately become one of pianist Marilyn Crispell's most sympathetic collaborators, while Pheeroan akLaff, a crisp, versatile drummer, is as at home with straightahead jazz or even reggae as with the more adventurous music of the likes of Oliver Lake or Henry Threadgill.

The trio began as it meant to go on: with a free-sounding but tightly organised three-way improvisation spun from a relatively simple central motif. The customary head-solos-head structure of much jazz was eschewed in favour of a variety of approaches: solos might spiral off a repeated bass figure, or rumbling improvisations might suddenly coalesce into sombre melodies. Throughout, however, the music was kept tight and cogent.

Hill's is a rich, almost cluttered sound in which silence, sudden but subtle dynamic and textural shifts, and odd splashes of instrumental colour are more important than overt virtuosity. His music is thus often regarded as "difficult"; the standing ovation the trio received on completing their 80-minute set was therefore all the more welcome.

CHRIS PARKER

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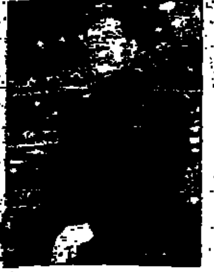


■ OPERA

Nikolaus Lehnhoff introduces his new production of Hans Pfitzner's *Palestrina* at Covent Garden

■ CONCERTS 1

Benjamin Luxon narrates an unusual new work for orchestra — plus audience participation

THE TIMES

ARTS

■ CONCERTS 2

The young violinist Midori shows her serious side in a challenging recital at the Bridgewater Hall

■ TOMORROW

How does Michael Fox rate in *The Frighteners*? Read Geoff Brown's verdict on this week's new movies

Epic hymn to a Renaissance man

OPERA: As Covent Garden rehearses *Palestrina*, **Ian Brunskill** meets the director of Pfitzner's masterpiece

If ever an opera needed saving from its defenders, it is Hans Pfitzner's *Palestrina*. Premiered in Munich in 1917, and receiving its first fully professional British staging next week at Covent Garden, it has long been revered by those who (in the words of one of their bogeymen, Pierre Boulez) "suffer from a nostalgia for the past as a 'paradise lost' [and] react violently against a future that seems to them to be a terrifying nightmare". Which has rather tended to put off everyone else.

It certainly put off Nikolaus Lehnhoff, at least at first. Now in his late fifties, but with the energy and enthusiasm of a man two decades younger, the German director is best known to British audiences for the outstanding Janáček cycle he began ten years ago at Glyndebourne. His Munich production of Hans Werner Henze's *Prince of Homburg* was also seen at English National Opera last year, and it was the British premiere of the same composer's *Das verratene Meer* that he originally planned to do at Covent Garden. When that idea ran into problems, he was surprised to be asked by the Royal Opera's Nicholas Payne if he would like to tackle *Palestrina* instead.

"My first reaction was: *Palestrina*? Er . . . yes. It's a German opera. My second was: please can I go away and think about it!"

Lehnhoff blames Pfitzner himself for the work's rather gloomy reputation. The composer's character, he says, "has done his music no good". Insecure, quarrelsome and ambitious, Pfitzner was "caught between so many stools". His polemical conservatism and nationalism — spiritual and idealistic at first, but increasingly politicised by the First World War — cannot be overlooked, but they have "covered up what is interesting in his work; there are so many things that you have to push aside if you want to get to its essence".

It is an essence well worth discovering, he insists. "*Palestrina* has a brilliant text, by the composer himself, and it's first-rate music."

For Thomas Mann, one of its earliest and most ardent admirers, *Palestrina* marked the end of an era — a last, late product of a 19th-century tradition, "the funeral hymn of Romantic opera". In it, and in its view of artistic inspiration, Mann discerned a "sympathy with death", which Lehnhoff explains as a "very 19th-century, very German idea of getting your spiritual roots from something which doesn't exist, which was there but which is now gone. So that you have to establish something inside yourself to make up for it."

But that, Lehnhoff feels, is only half the story. Pfitzner had an uneasy relationship with modernity, and he dramatises it in his (fictional) account of the 16th-century composer Palestrina's response to the debates about musical innovation that accompanied the Council of Trent. But *Palestrina* — not least for the self-consciousness with which it considers what is possible and desirable in contemporary music — is a powerfully modern opera; to Bruno Walter, 30 years after he conducted the first performance, it remained "one of the mightiest stage works of the century".

Lehnhoff had known of the work and its composer since childhood, but they "had never been part of my musical or artistic life". An elderly aunt of his had witnessed and told him of the occasion in Strasbourg when Pfitzner, as music director, had had to step in for an indisposed Beckmesser midway through *Meistersinger*; and as a student in Vienna and Munich, he had seen *Palestrina* several times himself. But he had always been impressed less by the work than by the great performers it attracted: Julius Patzak, Christa Ludwig, Sena Jurinac, Fritz Wunderlich and Hans Hotter (who once said Pfitzner's Cardinal Borromeo was his favourite role after Wotan).

ADRIAN SHERRATT

"Whatever its influences, *Palestrina* has its own musical impetus," says Nikolaus Lehnhoff. "It's not Wagnerian or Straussian. It's not atmospheric: it's archaic music"

The difficulty of fielding singers of that calibre throughout the opera's huge cast is one of the obstacles facing any new staging: but with the highly regarded American-born tenor Thomas Moser making his Covent Garden debut in the title role, and a supporting line-up that includes Thomas Allen, Kurt Rydl, Sergei Leiferkus and Nicolai Gedda, the Royal Opera looks set to meet that particular challenge.

Meeting the work's other challenges is Lehnhoff's problem. Covent Garden's last venture into the darker corners of the German repertory was with another classic "Künstlerdrama", Hindemith's *Mathis der Maler*: a work which, like *Palestrina*, explores — through a fictionalised account of a historical artist's life — the relationship between art and the world in which it is made. On that occasion, a baffling and boring production did a rarely seen opera less than justice, as Hindemith's score was buried beneath the banal obsessions of the director, Peter Sellars.

Lehnhoff is anxious to avoid a similar mistake. He has never cultivated a recognisable directorial "signature". "You always have to look first into the work. Do not impose your style; the style must come out of the piece. I learnt that from Wieland Wagner — I was his last assistant at Bayreuth — though you might not immediately associate it with him.

"First of all," he says, "you have to tell the story." Especially when the work is unfamiliar. He relishes the challenge of introducing an audience to a piece it may not know. "It helps me to look anew at an opera."

In Germany *Palestrina* is too often viewed through a veil of piety, which Lehnhoff was determined to strip away. "The form of the work reflects *Parsifal*, but a lot of the content reflects *Meistersinger*." What is needed is "less Schopenhauer and more Freud", if *Palestrina*'s epic structure is to be brought to theatrical life. Otherwise, "the whole thing just floats away".

Lehnhoff refuses to be perturbed by Pfitzner's diatribes against musical "futurism". "Today you get the sense that there was this total conflict between separate camps. But it was not so clear-cut. Pfitzner conducted Mahler and Mahler conducted him; he invited Schoenberg to conduct his own pieces in Strasbourg, and Schoenberg defended him after the Second World War; he said that Stravinsky's world was not his world, but he had to agree that he was a master. Nobody mentions that."

The image of Pfitzner valiantly defending tradition against the onslaughts of his iconoclastic contemporaries does less than justice to his music's originality. "Whatever its influences, it has its own impetus," Lehnhoff says. "It's not Wagnerian or Straussian. It's not atmospheric music; it's archaic, expressive music. In that it's closer to Schoenberg. It's not the music of the 19th century." Even as it looks to the past, Pfitzner's masterpiece is of its own time, and of ours.

● *Palestrina* opens next Tuesday at the Royal Opera House (0171-304 4000)

CONCERTS: High-quality recital by a young violinist let down by the Bridgewater acoustics; plus a difficult debut for a new assistant conductor

Seriously fine playing

THERE is no more serious violinist than Midori. There is, it is true, a calculated mystique about her — what's her other name, where's she from, how old is she? — but this is a matter of what is withheld from the public rather than what is revealed to it in a wet T-shirt.

Her recital programmes seem, moreover, designed to deter all but the most committed enthusiast for the violin and piano repertoire. Even so, as at Symphony Hall three years ago, Midori and McDonald (Robert McDonald, if that is not giving too much away) attracted an impressively large following to the Bridgewater Hall at the weekend.

If the Manchester audience heard the violinist not quite at her best it was largely because, with a large and empty space on the platform behind her, the acoustic was too reverberant to project a focused sound into the auditorium. There were attendant problems with balance and with clarity in the piano part too. But these were marginal considerations in comparison with the rare opportunity to experience committed interpretations of works by George Enescu and Nicolas Flagello, between more familiar items by Mozart and César Franck.

Midori
Manchester

The American composer's *Declamation*, Op 54 — written 30 years ago in much the same romantic tradition as the Franck Sonata — survived the conditions more or less intact. Enescu's Sonata No 3 in A minor, on the other hand, is a very much more delicate growth, its textures minutely detailed to reflect the natural and folk-instrumental sounds of the Romanian countryside. Such poetic moments as the beginning of the nocturnal slow movement, where violin harmonics are exotically inflected over quietly repeated notes high on the piano, require an intimate setting. It is an indication of the quality of the performance, and of the concern of the two instrumentalists for balance and blend of colour, that so much of Enescu's uniquely inspired scoring made its evocative effect even here.

Midori: high level of emotional involvement

Perhaps the most valuable aspect of Midori's playing is its emotional involvement. Certainly, although Mozart's Sonata in F, K 376, was scarcely the kind of work she could identify with, Franck's Sonata in A excited much expressive spontaneity in both the violinist and her hard-pressed pianist. It was just a pity that, tiring towards the end of the recital, she allowed her intonation to wander off-centre. In two Kreisler encores — in the melodic grace of *Schön Rosmarin* and the unlikely ragtime charm of *Syncopations* — equanimity was restored.

GERALD LARNER

Buzz, hiss, miss

TOMMASO PLACIDI, the London Symphony Orchestra's new assistant conductor, was made to work hard in Thursday's lengthy Barbican concert. But he also appeared to enjoy himself in the premiere of Stephen Montague's *The Creatures Indoors*, a 45-minute piece for narrator and orchestra aimed at children in the manner of a contemporary *Carnival of the Animals*.

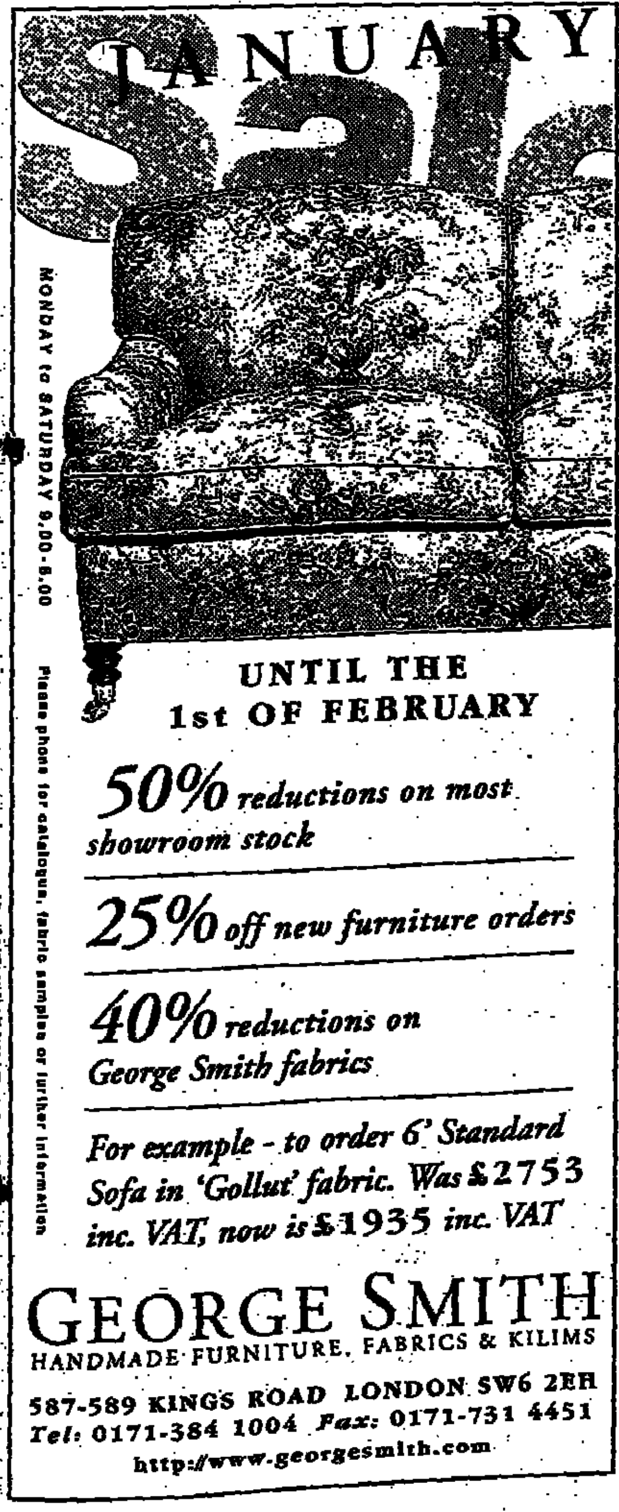
Commissioned as part of the BT Celebration Series, *The Creatures Indoors* sets nine sharply imaginative poems by Jo Shapcott, mostly dealing with nature's unfriendlier species. Montague, always a versatile composer, has responded with a score full of pulsating energy, rich in onomatopoeic effects. Buzzing, agitated strings summon up the flies that return in a sequence of interludes, *à la* Promenades in Mussorgsky's *Pictures*. Audience participation is invited, among other things to provide the "hiss" of snakes and the "grand chorus of musical boxes" that evokes a bewitching dreamscape towards the end.

LSO/Placidi
Barbican

Benjamin Luxon's lively narration kept the audience enthralled. Beginning in grandfatherly storytelling tones, he soon leapt into menacing action as a hungry vulture, slipping in and out of *speech-song*. Performances like this should open many new ears to music as the work is taken up by seven other orchestras around the country (the next performance is in Reading on February 4).

The rest of the programme focused on three contrasting areas of the repertory, as if to showcase Placidi. Alas, he only really proved himself with an account of a suite from Stravinsky's *Firebird*, strong on atmosphere and colour. In Mozart he was dull and heavy-handed: despite fluent playing from the LSO's principal oboist, Roy Carter, the Oboe Concerto in C never sparkled, though the orchestra's fine strings played with bold attack. But the normally magnificent LSO was hardly recognisable in *Till Eulenspiegel*, here burdened with more bombast than even Strauss ever dreamt of. Placidi directed a clumsy performance, without continuity between its witty episodes: perhaps, like me, he forgot to pack his sense of humour.

JOHN ALLISON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with experience of working at Partner level dealing with both contentious and non-contentious work. Must be capable of providing quick and accurate documentation, have good audio and communication skills, be conversant with Microsoft Word 6.0, possess a sense of humour and remain calm under pressure.

Experienced Receptionist/ telephonist to operate Meridian Option 11 Switchboard. Must be well spoken, have a pleasant personality and have experience of a legal or professional practice.

Hours 10.30am to 7pm Monday to Friday.

Please apply in writing, enclosing C.V. and stating salary required to:-
Sylvia Shaw, Goodman Derrick, 90 Fetter Lane,
London EC4A 1EQ
No Agencies Please.

SECRETARIES REQUIRED FOR CENTRAL LONDON OFFICES.

A highly organised and experienced team secretary is required to work in the Professional Department of our Knightsbridge office. Applicants should be proficient in Microsoft Word for Windows and keen to work in a busy demanding environment. Only smokers need apply.

Several exciting opportunities have arisen within our Central London offices. The successful candidates should have typing speeds of 60wpm, be well organised and have good communication skills.

Please write or fax your cv to: Marie Noonan, Hamptons International, 60 Belgrave Road, Pimlico, London SW1V 1RQ. Fax 0171 834 0619.

هكذا من الأصل

Tel: 0171 680 6806

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586

VICTORIA
£20,000 Package

+ excellent benefits including gym.
Are you a 2nd jobber looking for the next step up? This international consultancy is looking for an organised secretary to work in the Chief Executive's office supporting the Director of Operations. Suit a team player with good communication skills. 60wpm typing. Age 20's.
Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PERSONNEL
£20,000

Involving, busy and varied senior level role in a successful international company. Providing full support to your boss there will also be responsibility, projects and plenty of challenge for a people orientated computer literate candidate. 50wpm.
Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CHAIRMAN'S PA
£23,000

Support the young and dynamic chairman of a large city insurance company. Excellent secretarial skills including shorthand and the desire to get involved in various projects. 80/50wpm.
Please telephone 0171 628 9529

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE £24,000

Located on the executive floor, you will offer secretarial support to the CE and manage both administration and workflow. At least 5 years experience at board level and the ability to integrate into the management team is preferred. 80wpm shorthand
Please telephone 0171 628 9529

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT to £28,000

Interesting opportunity for a polished, career-minded professional of graduate calibre to work for the CE of this international financial company. Assisting with all aspects of his business life you will have responsibility for your own projects and supervision of 2 support staff
Please telephone 0171 628 9529

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ROC

£27,000 + Bank Benefits

PA to Head of Finance
Leading Merchant Bank

Paid O/T, Bonus, Health, PRP, IFSTL, BUPA, Share Options, Subsidised Restaurant, Life, NC Pension

High Level demanding role in newly appointed position providing traditional PA support to the very pleasant Chief Financial Officer. Must be confident and proactive.

ROC House, 45 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£26,000 + Bank Benefits.

Full Executive Status
Upmarket Shorthand Secretary
International Merchant Bank

Paid O/T, NC Pension, Bonus, Gym, BUPA, IFSTL, Subsidised Restaurant, Life, Health,

Work as part of management team headed up by MD of Equity Sales, providing him with full support. Assuming responsibility for client database, trading floor budget and organising art exhibitions are just a few of the varied job components. Shorthand, A-levels and 80 wpm essential.

City Office, 65 London Wall, London EC2M 5TP

Phone	Fax
0171 256 9040	0171 256 9044

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£22,000 + Bank Benefits

Banking Legal
PA/Secretary
Major High Street Bank

Bonus, Paid O/T, Mortgage Subsidy, IFSTL, BUPA, Life, Helath, Subsidised Restaurant, Gym, NC Pension.

Work in the prestigious City based Head Office providing comprehensive secretarial administrative support to a Senior Manager in the Group Counsels Office. Excellent opportunity to take a responsible role for a confident secretary with shorthand and 60 wpm.

ROC House, 45 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£19,500 + Bank Benefits

Break into Banking
Good College Leaver or Second Jobber
Team Sec - Emerging Markets

PRP, Paid O/T, Subsidised Restaurant, Bonus Share Options, Extra Insurance, Health, BUPA, NC Pension, IFSTL

Provide full secretarial support to successful team of city high-fliers at one of the worlds leading investment banks. Organise all client functions and prepare presentations. Very sociable team know how to work hard and play hard. 70 Wpm and Powerpoint.

City Office, 65 London Wall, London ECM 5TP

Phone	Fax
0171 256 9040	0171 256 9044.

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£30,000 + Banking Benefits

True one to one
Secretary to Chief Executive
No Shorthand

Paid O/T, Insurance, PRP, IFSTL, Bonus, NC Pension, Subsidised Restaurant, BUPA, Health, Life, Pool, Share Options.

New Chief Executive at one of the UK's leading Merchant Banks has just arrived, and he needs a Secretary who is confident assertive and not easily intimidated. Lots of liaison at senior level, must be able to prioritise. Relevant experience essential. City based.

ROC House, 45 Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£22,000 + Ex Benefits

Secretary to VP
Mineral & Mining Conglomerate

Bonus, PPP, Pension Scheme, Free Lunch, PRP, Gym Membership, IFSTL.

Stable Senior Secretary with corporate background and flexible attitude needed to work one to one with very senior executive in plush City offices. Shorthand and 65 wpm essential.

City Office, 65 London Wall, London EC2M 5TP

Phone	Fax
0171 256 9040	0171 256 9044

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£20,000 + Bens.

Discretion Essential!
Top Calibre PA
Prominent Royal Charity

LVs, IFSTL, Life, Health, BUPA, Pension Scheme

Work with the Royal Family and VIPs of a nearly similar status on a day to day basis. Must be able to travel at short notice in this involved one to one role as PA to Director General of a Royal Charity. Well spoken with 70 Wpm.

ROC House, 45 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£18,000 + Benefits

Good all-rounder
Internal Float Secretary

28 days Holiday, Shopping Discounts, IFSTL, P&P

Confident, very capable secretary with excellent presentation who is looking for variety, is needed to work for leading bluechip in plush Mayfair offices.

ROC House, 45 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£25,000 + Benefits

Opportunity in Advertising
PA to Marketing Director
Kensington Based

Generous Benefits, Package to be agreed at interview,

Ideally a graduate, languages useful and solid secretarial experience essential. London office of huge multinational advertising company recently opened, needs a mature, pro-active *PA to join team and be prepared to work hard. Shorthand and 80* wpm essential.

ROC House, 45 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£18,000 + Benefits.

No Stress
Computer Operator/Typist
Sloane Square

20 Days Holiday, Early Review, PPP,

The beautiful open plan offices of this growing architectural design company provide an excellent working environment. A new opportunity exists for an outgoing, mature, friendly individual with a thorough knowledge of W4W and fast accurate typing. Lots of involved templates, layouts and presentations.

ROC House, 45 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£22,000 + Bank Benefits

Use Your Languages
Marketing Secretary
Prominent International Bank

Mortgage Subsidy, Bonus, Paid O/T, Sports & Social Club, Life, Health, PPP, NC Pension, IFSTL.

Promotion has created an opportunity for a bright confident secretary with good spoken French and German and a sense of humour. Work in plush city offices for very successful Director of Marketing. Lots of International conferences to arrange and international client contact. 60 Wpm.

ROC House, 45 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD.

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£20,000 + Ex Benefits

Legal PA
International Money Brokers

Bonus, PPP, Paid O/T, Subsidised Restaurant, Gym, Pension, Life, Health, IFSTL,

Mature, switched on, assertive PA to work for Chief Legal Advisor at large, upmarket City firm. Provide full secretarial support, legal experience useful. 60 wpm essential.

City Office, 65 London Wall, London EC2M 5TP

Phone	Fax
0171 256 9040	0171 256 9044

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£26,000 + Banking Benefits

Professional And Unflappable
Executive Secretary
Global Merchant Bank

Mortgage Subsidy, Paid O/T, Subsidised Restaurant, IFSTL, NC Pension, Life, Health, BUPA.

Work in sales and trading environment providing full support for the very dynamic Head of Derivatives. This varied role will keep you on your toes, juggling tasks, meeting deadlines and organising extensive overseas travel. Senior level experience essential as is shorthand and 100 wpm.

City Office, 65 London Wall, London EC2M 5TP

Phone	Fax
0171 256 9040	0171 256 9044

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£22,000 + Bank Benefits

Good Second Jobber
Director's Secretary

Paid O/T, Bonus, Mortgage Subsidy, Life, Health, IFSTL, NC Pension, PPP, Sports & Social, PRP

Senior role working for head of prestigious UK/European department at leading international bank. Lots of liaison with very senior directors. Confidential work requires shorthand and 80 wpm

City Office, 65 London Wall, London EC2M 5TP

Phone	Fax
0171 256 9040	0171 256 9044

ROC Recruitment

ROC

£18,000 + Benefits

Conversational French
Second Jobber
International Oil Company

IFSTL, Share options, Sports & Social Club, PRP, Pension Scheme, Life, Health, PPP,

Work at the opulent head office of this huge corporation for two Marketing Directors. Very varied role as their functions are so diverse and interesting. Take responsibility for own projects and *for ensuring Directors are where they should be. Rusty shorthand* desirable. 70wpm essential.

ROC House, 45 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD.

Phone	Fax
0171 499 8658	0171 499 9002

ROC Recruitment

ARE YOU A CREATIVE CREATURE?

As media secretarial specialists we can offer you a world of exciting opportunities

– from the Arts, publishing, broadcasting, marketing, PR and music

If you are a good PA or Secretary with a professional attitude, we'll find you a job you'll be sad to leave!

Salary range £10,000 - £25,000+

TEL: 0171 499 6566
FAX: 0171 493 6320

GROSVENOR BUREAU

DIRECTION NOT DISAPPOINTMENT!

Want To Get Into Banking?
Equity Floor Secretary
£14 - £16K + Excellent benefits

Are you looking for your 2nd secretarial position and would enjoy the buzz of working in a fast moving & dynamic environment? This is a fabulous opportunity for a young, bright secretary who is serious about a career in the City. W4W, Powerpoint & 50wpm typing are essential. Sensible hours.

Top Finance House
Young 1-3 Secretary
£19,000 + Excellent Benefits

If you have good W4W & Excel combined with a financial background, we have the job for you! This small team of Executives will give you a high administrative content, lots of telephone work and full involvement. So if you want to use *your brain and are able to work OT, call now!*

FORGET OPEN EVENINGS WE'RE OPEN EVERY EVENING CITY & WEST END CONSULTANTS

**** CLIENT OF THE WEEK ****

CITY CAREERS
Top Salaries & Packages

One of the City's top Investment Banks has been so successful that it is now looking to expand its team of professional, competitively paid secretaries. Pan European has been retained to help them recruit top secretaries and *PAs in a variety* of departments. Salaries and Benefits are SUPERB! If you have W4W, Excel & Powerpoint and are looking for both variety and challenge, call us now to hear more about positions in: Personnel, Aerospace, Fixed Income, Marketing (German) and *Finance, amongst others.*

WORK NOT WAFFLE!

Fed up of unfulfilled promises made by agencies? Pan European has built its enviable reputation by always keeping its word. We offer you WORK not Waffle! Here are just a few of the benefits Pan European's City & West End temps enjoy. Small wonder that some temps stay with us for years.

* A steady flow of work
* Length of assignments to suit
* Highly competitive rates
* Paid holidays
* Entry into cash prize draws of £1,000

The proof of the pudding is in the eating so if you have excellent secretarial skills, are aged between 20-40 and have good knowledge of Windows packages, let us impress you!

PAN EUROPEAN
RECRUITMENT

TEL: 0171 734 8484
FAX: 0171 734 8501

EUROPEAN PRESIDENT

£28,000

The European President of a leading international communications agency is looking for a top PA preferably from a service industry.

Working for a very young charismatic boss at the top of *the tree of his industry and set to rise even higher,* you will be juggling the demands of running his office with extensive liaison with international networks, attending meetings and producing newsletters.

He will expect you to be polished, totally professional but always approachable in your dealings with staff and clients. Exceptional organisational and secretarial skills are essential. Skills: 100/60.

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer.
All applicants are positively welcomed.

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S PA

£21,000

An international Trade Association, based in North London, has just recruited a new Chief Executive and now requires a senior level PA to act as his right hand and *to provide full secretarial support during this important* period of change and expansion. Involvement in administration and the co-ordination of events and reports as well as the management of a hectic diary, will necessitate excellent organisational skills. Flexibility and the ability to turn your hand to a variety of tasks will also be essential. Shorthand and a knowledge of Microsoft *Office are preferable.*

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer
All applicants are positively welcomed.

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer

'ANIMAL LOVER'
SNR ADMIN ASSISTANT/SECRETARY
£16,200

Job in a million!! Well established International Charity seeks an experienced Administrator with strong secretarial skills to assist the Chief Executive and the management team. You should have an excellent command of English as duties will include composing letters, maintaining diaries, taking and producing minutes and assisting with personnel and legacy administration. You will also deal with telephone queries, so a pleasant, welcoming voice would be ideal. This is a wonderfully varied role and would ideally suit an animal lover, age immaterial. Please call Elaine or fax CV to -

Rainbow House
12 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1DF
Tel: 0171 491 7252 Fax: 0171 491 2887

SHORTHAND SECRETARY
£20-£22,000 + PERKS
+ OVERTIME AFTER 5PM!!

Due to a promotion - the Head Office of this Blue Chip Company have a vacancy in their Treasury Department. Mainly working for the Head of Treasury, you also support his small team, some of whom have their own PCs. This is a busy section dealing extensively with international banks and financial institutions. W4W and fast, accurate typing essential, Excel is desirable. If you seek a secure role, a fabulous package and a friendly environment, *call Gwen or fax CV* immediately to

Rainbow House
12 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1DF
Tel: 0171 491 7252 Fax: 0171491 2887

PA/OFFICE MANAGER to £22,000

Alexandra BEAUMONT

Large W1 Co 1:2 role with own areas of responsibility. *Previous supervisory experience* essential. Shorthand preferred.

Tel 0171 404 7314 Fax 0171 404 7399

TEMP TO PERM £22,000

Alexandra BEAUMONT

Career PA role. True 1:1 assisting the Head of Group Communications with an international City Co. Previous director level experience essential.

Tel 0171 404 7314 Fax 0171 404 7399

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bring YOUR *flair* TO graduate RECRUITMENT

£20,000 – CITY

GORDON-YATES

a passion for recruitment

The company: World class business services group; with a superb record for developing their people.

The role: Sec/PA to the newly appointed Head of Graduate Resourcing: helping to set up systems, co-ordinate busy diaries etc; being part of a great team.

The essentials: Minimum 3 years' secretarial experience; accurate yping (60+); lots of initiative & enthusiasm.

Is this you? Please call 0171-494 4466, let's talk.

CHARTERED SURVEYORS LONDON W1

Seek Audio Secretary. Good telephone manner/ communication skills. Knowledge of W4W - typing 70wpm. Previous property experience preferable. Salary £15,500-£17,000 aae.

CV to J Nash, Douglas *Stevens & Co. 1 Harewood Place, Hanover Square,* London W1R 9HA.

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES

TEAM SECRETARY

A highly respected Networking Organisation with blue chip Client list seeks enthusiastic, self-motivated and accurate team secretary. Shorthand a necessity, good typing and word processing skills (Windows 6.1) and excellent organisational skills essential. Applicant will have continual client contact so must be well presented at all times and have a good telephone manner. Salary £16K.

Send CV to: Miss Emma-Jane Cautley
The Development Group
13,The Ivory House
St Katharine Docks, London E1 9AT
Tel: 0171 480 5652. Fax: 0171 488 9643.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S PA

PA Listings, part of the Press Association, is the UK's market leading supplier of Arts & *Entertainment*, TV, *Finance* and Weather information to the media.

We have a vacancy for an experienced PA to provide support to the Managing Director and oversee the smooth running of the administrative area.

This is a key role that involves liaising at senior levels and managing junior staff. As well as possessing excellent secretarial and organisational *skills, the successful applicant* must be resourceful and confident with good communication skills and lots of initiative.

If you feel this is the right role for you please apply with full CV and details of current salary to:

Operations Director, PA Listings,
16/17 Berners Street, London W1P 3DD.

PA/SECRETARY
to Managing Director
£22K/£25K + bonus

Small friendly financial City firm. You must *have had min 3 yrs* senior sec exp. Fast copy. *Basic Excel.* Word 4 Windows.

C.V. to fax No.
0171 929 2616.

Marketing Secretary
£18,000

Based in St John's Wood working for a busy advertising co, you will need to have excellent presentation skills along with 60 wpm and windows. An ability to work in a fast paced environment is essential. Call now for an immediate interview

0171 493 2888

HERITAGE
RECRUITMENT

ENTHUSIASTIC SECRETARY/ RECEPTIONIST

Required for W Kensington Estate Agents to assist in *organising and running* the office - should have good secretarial skills, a *knowledge* of W for W and an outgoing personality.

Apply *in writing* encl. CV to:
Lizzie Roe, Savills plc, 701 Fulham Road, London SW6 5UL.

GERMAN BI-LING PA

In West End. Salary £25,000 neg + Bonus. This very demanding position is to work for the dynamic Head of International Strategy. Fluent German is a must and any other European language a plus, with good sec skills. This is not for the faint hearted but a real challenge for someone with an excellent financial/banking background who wants to be in the West End. Please call Clare Reid on 0171 935 9692 at BJ Crawfords (Rec Cons).

Reception/ Secretary

Required for busy private member's west end club. Good *telephone manner and typing skills* - required *immediately.*

Contact Chris/Gina
0171 734 5188.

PART-TIME ASSISTANT

Very busy *Design Department of a* Property Management Company requires an Administrator/*Assistant* to work part-time, 2/3 Days a week. You would need to be interested in Interior Design. Clean driving licence. Computer literate. Salary negotiable.

Please send your CV to:
Tessa Thomson-Glover
PKL Limited, 2 Jubilee Place,
London SW3 3TQ.

CONSULTANCY PA

PA required for management consultancy in Knightsbridge. Exciting opportunity for skilled, experienced PA to provide administrative support to senior consultants. The successful candidate will be self-directed, responsible, able to communicate with executive clients, and possess excellent secretarial *skills(Word for Windows, Powerpoint,* Excel). European language skills required. Salary to £18,000 pa.

To apply, please forward your CV, including a note *about your career interests*, and salary expectations to UMS Group UK Limited, 195 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RE, marked for the attention of David Johnson

PERSONAL SECRETARY

to work as part of team of two for Chairman and Directors of international projects company based in Knightsbridge. Good shorthand and knowledge of Microsoft Word for Windows '95 Version 7.0 essential. Extensive client contact. Salary circa £21,000.

CVs in strictest confidence to: Frances Martin, 79 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7RB.

DIRECTORS PA'S
£18,000 - £20,000 p.a.

We have numerous PA positions at Director level. Companies *include:* W1 *Media Group* - *£20K*, Welwyn Garden City - *£20K*, Hammersmith - £18K and Luton - £16K.

***For further information* please call Wendy or Judi on 0171 420 8088 (fax 0171 420 8044)**

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
TELEPHONE 0171 420 8088

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL WEST END

Partner's secretary required for international commercial solicitors; some legal experience necessary. WP6.1; salary £19,500 negotiable. Ref: JB. Call 637 3071 or fax CV to 637 5616
No Agencies

SECRETARY / RECEPTIONIST

Required for 'Spymaster' one of London's most exciting showrooms. Must be very well presented, a non-smoker with Word Processing skills. S/H would help, but not essential. Hours 9.30-5.30, *5 day week,* 18 days holiday p.a. £16,000 p.a.

Tel: 0171 486 3885.

FIRST CLASS SEC/PA 28+

Required for small but busy West End Surveyors. Must be fast and accurate. Knowledge of WordPerfect for Windows 6.1 and PROPERTY EXPERIENCE ESSENTIAL.

Excellent salary + bonus.
20 days annual leave.
CVs to Box no. 2773.

SECRETARY / ADMINISTRATOR FOR W1 PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

We urgently require a competent, hands on person, to assist Director and Associate Director.

Excellent knowledge of W4W, Excel and *Powerpoint*. Keen team player, very well organised and a good sense of humour are also relevant.

CALL: 0171 493 8400
NO AGENCIES PLEASE

MOVE INTO RECRUITMENT

Outgoing, cheerful 35-45 + to take responsibility for interviewing and placement of mostly young people in the Office World. A resilient businesslike approach is essential for this challenging position, offering a starting salary of £16,500-£17,500 plus excellent bonuses (package to £25,000).

Please contact David Fisher or Eira Zaill.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU
8 MADDOX STREET LONDON W1R 9PN
0171 495 8822

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La Crème de la Crème

Tel: 0171 680 6806 Fax: 0171 782 7586

...City...City...City...City...City...City...City...City.

IT Administrator c£25,000 & bens

European Investment Bank require an experienced secretary to assist a team of IT professionals. The role will include developing new systems and procedures and assisting with IT queries by using your strong systems as well as good admin skills. This is a step out of secretarial for the right person. Essential skills: Word for Windows, Excel and Access. Financial experience desirable. Age 21-35.
Please call Katy Burke.

CANARY WHARF... Where else!! £20-24,000 & bens

Fantastic location with superb facilities and some of the most prestigious finance houses in London. We are currently recruiting for two of the US Investment Banks based here and we are looking for senior secretaries with solid experience and excellent skills. Traditionally working for two bosses organising diaries, travel, expenses and getting to know the business by becoming fully involved. Age 25-35.
Please call Claire or Amanda.

Graduate Opportunity to £19,500 & bens

Join this major PLC in a varied admin role and after 18 months watch your career take off! Duties: arranging conferences; producing presentations; handling personnel / office management issues. Your boss will give you all the support you need to progress. Skills: 50 wpm typing and excellent IT skills. Degree education and at least 1 year's experience in an admin / secretarial role is essential.
Please call Vanessa Mitchell.

Telephone: 0171-390 7000 Fax: 0171-390 2997

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

...West End...West End...West End...West End...

Richmond Powerpoint £20,000

Exciting, fast-paced international, household-name company needs a fantastic senior secretary to assist a director and his cosmopolitan team. Enthusiasm, flexibility, blue-chip experience and great Powerpoint are essential for you to become a crucial part of this dynamic team. If working to deadlines is second nature to you then
please call Susanna Hargreaves.

Pick and Mix £14,000 to £18,000

- *Advertising*
- *Design*
- *Executive Search*
- *Hotels*
- *PR*
- *Recruitment*
- *Sports*
- *Travel*

We have a selection of excellent secretarial vacancies in these areas. If you have secretarial and office experience,
please call Camilla or Andrea.

"Float On" Call Now! £16,000

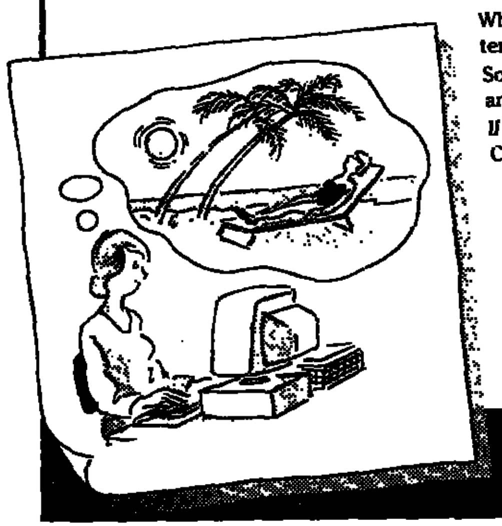
Several opportunities have arisen to join this international company as a "float" secretary. You will need excellent interpersonal and organisational skills plus a bright and friendly personality as you move around the departments. Knowledge of spreadsheets and graphics, 60wpm and a confident, team spirited attitude could secure a contract for you.
Please call Lucy Thomas

Telephone: 0171-434 4512 Fax: 0171-437 9239

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Where are you now?

Where could you be with Crone Corkill and AIR MILES?



Whether you are looking for a permanent job or enjoy being a professional temp, Crone Corkill helps you develop your career path.

Sound WP skills and a positive attitude will earn you excellent hourly rates and unrivalled benefits like AIR MILES awards.

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Crone Corkill
Temporary Recruitment

Marketing Secretary
To £20,000 + Bens
A fabulous opportunity with a leading blue-chip co for a professional, proactive secretary supporting the Head of the Division. Involvement & responsibility from the start! Typing 50wpm. W4W and Graphics. Call Emma Marks

Trading Floor
£20,000 + OT & B Bens
Think on your feet. We are recruiting an assistant to the Head of Bond Sales at a major investment bank. It will be very hectic so you must be highly energetic, dynamic and have superb communication skills. Call Emily Aldrich

Research PA
To £22,000 + Great Bens
To join a dynamic investment bank as PA to 2 young Directors. A superb job involving Research, IT, admin and HR. Must have good sec skills and be a team player. Great environment and plenty of scope. Based EC4. Call Alex Gaze

PR in the City
£17,000 + Bank Bens
Energetic, bright young secretary required to work in a front line division of a bank. Press releases, liaising at all levels. Must be a confident team player - preferably with shorthand. Call Sarah Turnbull

Tel: 0171 588 8999 **Aldrich & Company** RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS Fax: 0171 588 8998

GERMAN BI-LING PA
In West End. Salary £25,000 neg + Bonus. This very demanding position is to work for the dynamic Head of International Strategy. Fluent German is a must and any other European language a plus, with good sec skills. This is not for the faint hearted but a real challenge for someone with an excellent financial/banking background who wants to be in the West End. Please call Clare Reid on 0171 935 9692 at BJ Crawfords (Rec Cons).

RECEPTIONIST
West End. Excellent salary + Bonus. This prestigious American firm needs a first class receptionist to run their highly efficient operation in St. James. Must have experience in dealing with a busy switchboard and an international office. Responsible for all meeting and greeting, conference room bookings, flowers etc. Must have an excellent track record and 50 wpm typing. Please call Clare Reid on 0171 935 9692 at BJ Crawfords (Rec Cons).

PERSONNEL
c£30K neg
Manage all aspects of HR including recruitment, training & appraisals to board level. Total responsibility for 200 media staff. Must have strong personnel management experience. North London. Age to 40.
Royds Raphael Rec
0171 287 2050

HAUTE COUTURE
S/H SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR
£20,000 + 25% Discount
Charming MD of Kensington Haute Couture Marketing Company seeks an experienced S/H Sec (100wpm) aged 23-30, to take on a role dictating 80% administration. If you possess an impeccable telephone manner, the ability to deal with sales and figure orientated duties and presence to liaise closely with International Designers, please call
Tel: 0171 493 0437 Fax: 0171 493 0467
Verity Appointments

HOBSTONES

Have you Got that Little Bit Extra? (to £10 per hour)

We always need to expand our professional temp team so many of our assignments require that ' extra skill' and flexibility. We would love to hear from you if you have a fast typing speed (55wpm) and knowledge of a Windows package but any the following would be a real bonus.

- * Shorthand
- * Database Knowledge
- * Spreadsheet Knowledge
- * DTP/Presentation skills

City: Joyce, Gillian, Lisa, Victoria: 0171 550 7000
West End: Holly, Isobel, Liz: 0171 437 6032

RECRUITMENT

REED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

PA TO GENERAL MANAGER

The general manager of this sales/marketing company seeks an individual with 2 years' director level experience to provide extensive administrative support. Solid Word 6, Excel and PowerPoint skills. Language skills an asset. **£20,000**

For Executive Secretarial Positions In The West End, Tel: 0171 491 4610

REED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

SENIOR SECRETARY

Will be required to provide a full range of secretarial and administrative support to the MD of this expanding insurance company. Sound audio and organisational skills and ability to supervise other secretaries essential. Relevant experience useful. **£19,000**

For Executive Secretarial Positions In The City. Tel: 0171 481 2661

WORK IN BANKING!

PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR
£23,000 + MS + BENS
The role involves co-ordinating an extremely busy diary and a high level of client liaison. This position would suit a flexible PA who is looking for involvement within this major Investment Bank. Excellent secretarial skills required.
Please contact Margaret Sorohan.

NEW YORK NEW YORK
£21,000 + MS + BENS
The exciting world of finance offers an excellent opening for a Secretary/PA who wants to work for 2 senior level Directors who liaise constantly with New York. The role incorporates extensive client contact and presentation typing Age 23-33.
Please contact Melinda Marks.

2ND JOBBERS x 8
TO £19,000 + MS + BENS
Presently we have various excellent opportunities for confident 2nd Jobbers to move into banking. Ranging from working within Personnel for 2 senior Managers to working for an Executive Director within a major Investment Bank.
Please contact Melinda or Margaret.

TEMPS.... TEMPS.... TEMPS.... TEMPS.... TEMPS....

Good calibre Secretaries get top rates working with Jonathan Wren one of the City's leading Financial Consultancies.
We currently have a variety of short and long term assignments for the City and Docklands areas.
Previous banking experience is not always essential, but good knowledge of MS Office is needed.

Rates: £10.00 - £11.00 per hour.

Please contact Dezna Berry.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd
No.1 New Street
London
EC2M 4TP

JONATHAN WREN

Telephone: 0171 623 1266
Facsimile: 0171 626 5259

MISON RECRUITMENT

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
Secretary c£25k Pkg
Prestigious Asset Managers

This high profile area requires tact, diplomacy and discretion, liaison internally and externally at the highest level, you will be confident to utilise your excellent secretarial skills (W4W & SH). Working within a small team, handling press releases, dealing with PR Agents and the Press. This innovative organisation has superb IT support and will encourage you to widen your systems experience, whilst offering superb working conditions and an extremely generous benefits package.

0171-583 5441

MISON RECRUITMENT

ADMINISTRATOR SECRETARY
c£22k Base + Imm M/Sub, Bonus, PPP, STL + Sports Facilities

A key role, managing relationships within a busy marketing area of this triple "A" rated Bank. As the focal contact and representative for all logistical matters, including the development of a Client/PR programme, you will have exposure at the highest level. Confidentiality, tact, effective secretarial skills, including shorthand, coupled with the flexibility to work for a small team of different personalities, together with a realistic appreciation of a busy, client driven area are all essential.

0171-583 5441

SECRETARY/PA
We urgently seek to recruit a professional Secretary to organise our very busy Chief Executive. You must be well educated to at least 'O' level standard, have good organisational skills and be prepared to be totally involved. It's a 50/50 secretary/ administration role using Windows '95, knowledge of Excel and Access would be useful. Audio and fast note taking essential.
Please write with CV stating current salary to:
Lynette Greene
Emerging Markets Data plc,
195 Knightsbridge, London
SW7 1RE
Tel: 0171 414 0611

S/H PA with Lang.
£25-30k + Pkg
Age 25-45 with degree to join major City Co. Will provide full Sec + Admin support to M.D, which may inc. some European Travel. Gd P.C. skills essential.
0171-505-2900
OAKLAND ASSOCIATES

HOBSTONES

An Invitation
to discuss permanent career opportunities in the City at our
Open Day
on
Thursday 23rd January 1997
From 12pm-3pm and 5pm-7pm
At 5 Queen Street, London EC4
Nearest Tubes: Bank/Mansion House
Telephone: 0171 550 7000

Personnel/Office Assistant
£25,000
This is a responsible position working for a prestigious international law firm. It requires excellent organisational & administrative skills as well as a genuine ability to contribute ideas, juggle priorities & use imagination. You will have responsibility for facilities management, relocation issues and ad hoc projects, whilst working with the personnel/office manager on firm-wide matters. Would suit a professional, down-to-earth individual who has previous personnel or office management exp
0171-831-1220

THE RECRUITMENT COMPANY
5 GARRICK STREET WC2E 9AR

SOUTH MOLTON APPOINTMENTS

PR PA to MD £18-20k
Fast-growing Covent Garden consultancy offers a great chance for a young PA with 2-3 years exp and good writing skills to carve their own niche and be involved in new business drives. Strong IT and organisational skills essential.

PA/ Office Manager To £16.5k
Ambitious team-orientated PR agency seeks sharp minded, strong character for organisational role. Must be able to juggle projects and run office whilst supporting two.

Contact Amanda Johnson on
0171 495 8668 or Fax: 0171 499 8344
38, South Molton Street, london. W1Y 1HA

SHEILA CHILDS RECRUITMENT

£32,500
Our client, an international businessmen engaged in major property developments, urgently requires an intelligent, quick-thinking, vigorous personal assistant/secretary to work in a troika with two others of equal standing. Experience and a sence of humour are essential.

Pressure will be second nature to you and your focus on the immediate will be matched by your resilience and ability to juggle competing priorities. Your stamina and eye for detail will be legion, as well your zest for the challenges of a unpredictability of a changing daily workload. Excellent keyboard skills on Word for Windows of at least 80wpm. £32,500 + other benefits.

4 Ganton Street, London W1V 1LJ
Telephone: 0171 437 3111 Fax: 0171 437 4050

SMALL ELITE THEATRICAL AGENCY
requires brilliant Secretary. Must be proficient in shorthand/typing and Wordperfect windows.
Tel: 0171 930 6674.

SECRETARY/P.A. for C.E.O.
Wembley - £18-20K

The CEO of our expanding and well-established consumer products company needs an alert, intelligent and self-reliant sec/pa. In addition to excellent general secretarial skills, including shorthand, W4W, etc, we are above all seeking someone with the energy, enthusiasm and flexibility to make a real contribution to our busy team.

If this describes you and you like hard work, responsibility and involvement in a positive atmosphere, we would like to hear from you. Please send full career details to Box No. 2767.

No agencies please.

Our prestigious clients based in City / West End / Docklands seek experienced secretaries for short and long-term bookings. If you have 50wpm (s/h [illegible]) W4W, Powerpoint or Excel skills and are looking for a temp team as friendly and efficient as you are. Call Rhodita Marsell at Tate Appointments on 0171 408 0425 for an immediate interview.

CHARITY CONSULTANCY W.1.
C £21,000 + BONUS

High profile advisers to major charity fund need a thinking, work-hard/play-hard secretary for their delightful new senior director. He's busy so this is a great opportunity for a commercially-minded PA to organise him in a happy team atmosphere where amusing banter offsets the occasional volume audio typing. Fast W4W. Age 25-35.

PLEASE CALL 0171 373 7779
JIGSAW
RECRUITMENT

MASTERLOCK RECRUITMENT

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
£20 - £25,000

New int'l company being set up within an existing successful organication require energetic & dedicated PA to assist Director make the most of his time, help maintain business relations, co-ordinate travel & meetings, assist with preparation of documents, process tasks in his absence and ensure smooth running of his office. Self motivated and accurate with the ability to multi-task & meet deadlines for a fast paced boss.
Skills; W4W, WP5.1.

Please contact Masterlock Recruitment on
Tel: 0171 556 7010 Fax: 0171 621 1679

£24,000

Smart, flexible PA/ secretary 30's+ for busy, varied role with venture capital team in S.W.1. Great atmosphere, superb offices and free lunches, bonus etc:

0171 493 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS

SENIOR SECRETARY £25,000
Gym, restaurant, BUPA are just some of the benefits on offer at this major Blue Chip Co. in Central London. You must have min 3 yrs senior secretarial experience + be looking for a demanding role which will utilise your organisational skills to their fullest! W4W, Excel & Powerpoint (or any graphics package, are essential)
Call Nicola or Eve for an imm. interview 0171 499 8112 or fax your CV on 0171 499 8115 (Rec Agy)

هكذا من الأصل

Tel: 0171 680 6806

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586

JOSLIN ROWE

secretarial recruitment consultants

TEAM SECRETARIES CITY/W. END

C£18,000 + BANK BENS

We have several exciting New Year career opportunities available with a number of 'blue-chip' premier City based banks. Ideal if you are hungry for a fresh start and challenge in 1997, where your organisational flair will be stretched. Assisting high flyers who are at the peak of their career, you'll need to be a true team player, working to high standards and keeping a cool head in client driven areas; thinking ahead as you support them with the setting-up of travel programmes etc. Strong competent secretarial skills are essential, shorthand preferable. Open on age with ideally a banking background. These positions are available and active!

Joslin Rowe Associates Ltd
Bell Court House
11 Blomfield Street
London EC2M 7AY
Telephone: 0171 588 7287
Facsimile: 0171 382 9417

JOSLIN ROWE

secretarial recruitment consultants

JUNIOR SECRETARY CITY

C£14,000 + BANK BENS

Exciting opportunities have arisen for young, bright secretaries to join well known, highly regarded Banks, centrally situated. Initiative, flexibility, sense of humour and the ability to thrive under pressure are the key attributes for these important first jobber roles. These are team orientated positions which involve typing letters, reports, arranging and juggling busy diaries, therefore needing a good organiser. These Banks offer scope, training and opportunities. Good skills are essential to include: typing 50 wpm and shorthand would be preferred, along with knowledge of MS Word for Windows, Excel and a high level of education. Confidence is the key.

Joslin Rowe Associates Ltd
Bell Court House
11 Blomfield Street
London EC2M 7AY
Telephone: 0171 588 7287
Facsimile: 0171 382 9417

JOSLIN ROWE

secretarial recruitment consultants

TEAM SECRETARY - WEST END

C£20,000 + BANK BENS

This prestigious Investment Bank are currently looking to recruit a hard working, flexible team secretary to work within the Corporate Finance department for this young American & European Team. The suitable candidate must have at least 2 years corporate finance experience, the ability to prioritise their own workload and possess strong organisational skills. As the successful candidate will be producing documents of the highest standard they must maintain a professional attitude at all times. They are a lively team so a sense of humour is required. A knowledge of Word for Windows, Excel or Lotus (at advanced level) is essential. There shall be a certain amount of overtime but nothing excessive, so flexibility is important. Fast, accurate typing speeds are are required for (70 wpm) copy and audio.

Joslin Rowe Associates Ltd
Bell Court House
11 Blomfield Street
London EC2M 7AY
Telephone: 0171 588 7287
Facsimile: 0171 382 9417

JOSLIN ROWE

secretarial recruitment consultants

TRADING FLOOR — CITY/W. END

C£18,000 + BANK BENS

A number of roles have arisen working on the trading floor within different financial environments in the City and West End. Experience in a Bank is desirable (preferably a trading environment) along with the ability to prioritise and work to deadlines in a hectic and sometimes frantic atmosphere. Working knowledge of Word for Windows, Excel and Powerpoint are essential. Duties will include typing letters, reports, memos, arranging meetings, lunches and liaising with clients. The ideal candidates will be well educated, confident and able to use their initiative when working under pressure. The hours vary with each position but the candidate must be flexible to working overtime.

Joslin Rowe Associates Ltd
Bell Court House
11 Blomfield Street
London EC2M 7AY
Telephone: 0171 588 7287
Facsimile: 0171 382 9417

MAINE-TUCKER

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

NO EXPERIENCE? DON'T WORRY!

Admin/Reception - c£13,000

This very friendly, upmarket company, based in beautiful offices in the West End need a spunky, bright person (aged 18-21yrs) to handle office admin, manage reception and support a young, lively team. Typing skills are not essential but would be useful. This is a temp to perm contract so you need to be available immediately and raring to go!

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 5260

HOBSTONES

Temporary Legal Secretaries

Up to £11.50 per hour

We are currently looking for secretaries to join our growing team. You will need a minimum of 55wpm audio typing and two years within any area of law. We offer:

- Excellent choice in all sizes of firms
- Excellent pay rates
- In-house cross training facilities
- Long term assignments
- Established client base

Please telephone Angela d'Agostino on 0171 550 7000

LEGAL RECRUITMENT

HOBSTONES

PA Secretary Liverpool Street £negotiable

US law firm requires an experienced and professional PA Secretary to work for a US Attorney at law and the Office Administrator. This is an active and challenging role in a quality environment. Ability to prioritise a must. You need to be a team player with a confident and friendly telephone manner. Excellent skills of 100/70wpm and audio, plus first class knowledge of WordPerfect 5.1 and Lotus 123.

Please telephone Kim Harris on 0171 550 7000.

RECRUITMENT

HOBSTONES

Receptionist/ Secretary

EC2 £NEGOTIABLE

Smart and capable receptionist/ secretary required for City based US law firm. This is a key position, responsible for front of house operations, a busy switchboard, together with full reception duties. Fast typing 65wpm and WordPerfect 5.1 essential, Shorthand an advantage. Hours 8.30am - 5.30pm negotiable.

Please telephone Kim Harris on 0171 550 7000

RECRUITMENT

NSR

Est 1952

MONEY MARKETS - £13,000+

A young team of stockbrokers in Fulham are offering superb career prospects for the right person. 'A' level English, working knowledge of French. Plenty of client liaison. SH/T line. Typ 50 wpm Age 50 wpm. Age early 20's.

TOP CHARITY CONSULTANT - £15,500

Interesting & rewarding role assisting professional fund raiser working with many different charities. Warm sparkling personality & capable of own correspondence, database. MS/W4W, car driver, based Clapham. Age 24-40

IN SEARCH OF PARADISE - £16,000

International yacht chartering co in Chelsea seeks ship-shape person to assist their M.D. well presented with 3 years exp & flexibility a must. Typ 60 wpm Age 20's

MAYFAIR LADY - £22,000

A successful & exclusive co. in W1 seeks a chic & professional PA with loads of initiative to organise an utterly charming Director. Varied & responsible role within stunning offices. Immediate start. SH/90 wpm typ 60 wpm. Age 26-38

NORMA SKEMP REC LTD
0171 222 5091

MAINE-TUCKER

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PICCADILLY RECEPTIONIST

c£16,000 + Bens + Training

... walk through these Jermyn Street offices & you know this company is going places! They look after their staff - company days out, training and a "no politics" office. Do you have some professional ideally blue-chip reception experience and can you also offer accurate typing? Call us quickly - this is a special one.

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 5260

Born to Organise? c£16,000 p.a.

If you have 2 years' experience in a PR orientated environment, love the world of fast cars, drive, have good PA/secretarial skills and can cope with general mayhem, then you will *thrive here!* Masses to organise such as press meetings, [illegible] test drives - call us now!

JOYCE GUINESS PARTNERSHIP
0171 589 8807
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA with the Plus Factor? c£18,000 p.a.

Looking after this dynamic MD in the world of marketing, [illegible] mid 20's with good skills to [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] versatility to keep pace in a fast-moving organisation. [illegible] progress chasing. Some travel, conferences, all need co-ordination with speed and efficiency. Lovely atmosphere, lovely people!

JOYCE GUINESS PARTNERSHIP
0171 589 8807
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

career moves

GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF TV PA SEC £19,000

As PA to the Director of Broadcasting of major TV Co you will be constantly talking to people throughout the industry - so a knowledge of how the TV Network works is essential. An involving role for a forward thinking, well organised PA. Good sec skills ess!

PA TO DIRECTOR OF MARKETING £20,000

A confident PA/Secretary with good education and marketing and Director level sec experience is needed for a top PLC with diverse Leisure and Entertainment interests. Working with the director of Marketing you will be running diaries, organising meetings etc.

PA/SEC IN TV DRAMA £18,000

Assisting the Head of the Drama Dept at large TV Organisation you will need to be au fait with what's happening in TV Drama as well as enjoying the office secretarial role (not a route in Prod Asst Work). It's fast moving, enjoyable and needs a confident, team spirited person with a sense of humour!

Please call Sheryll Karpel or Caroline Foote

Sutherland House, 5-6 Argyll Street, London W1V 1AD.
Tel: 0171 292 2900, Fax: 0171 434 0297

career moves

SENIOR SECRETARIAL ROLES IN TV – CORPORATE PA/SEC MD LEVEL c£22,000

Working with this high profile Asst MD - young and whacky Satellite TV Co you will be working in a more corporate capacity - liaising with City/Financial Organisations, organising diaries, personal matters etc. A *City /Commercial senior PA/Sec background* (min 5 years) would be ideal, but the ability to mix with a creative young team essential. Superb skills inc S/H are a pre-requisite along with excellent presentation.

Please call Sheryll Karpel 0171 292 2905

SEC – INTERNATIONAL TV FRENCH/EUROPEAN LANGS c£16,700

Excellent opportunity for a bright secretary to liaise *internationally as you work for a Business Affairs Exec* at Major TV Co. Good skills (fast typ/superb tel manner) ess, S/H/Speedwriting advantageous and experience of working with legal documentation imp. Will be opportunities to take on more responsibility.

Please Call Kerry Ballard 0171 292 2908

Sutherland House, 5-6 Argyll Street, London W1V 1AD.
Tel: 0171 292 2900, Fax: 0171 434 0297

PERSONNEL SECRETARY

Allen & Overy is a Top 5 International City law practice employing over 1500 staff worldwide. The Personnel Department currently comprises 20 people and supports London and all 15 overseas offices located throughout Europe, Asia and USA.

We are seeking a Secretary for an expending Personnel Department providing support to 2 *Personnel Managers and a Personnel Officer. The role* will include secretarial and administrative support, *involvement in the recruitment process and* communication at all levels throughout the firm.

The ideal candidate will have excellent organisational, administrative and secretarial skills together with the ability to: prioritise their workload within a highly pressurised, demanding environment, run several jobs concurrently, and; provide information to team members and other interested parties on a continual basis. The candidate will be a confident, mature and trustworthy individual.

Volume recruitment experience would be an advantage as would exposure to a professional services firm. Knowledge of Word for Windows 6, good typing speeds and an attention to detail are essential.

Competitive salary package. To apply, please send a comprehensive CV and details of your current salary to: Suki Allday, Personnel Officer, Allen & Overy, London EC4M 9QQ.

"PA TO HR DIRECTOR" c£20,000 -£22,000pa

Superb PA is needed to work for this dynamic HR division within this prestigious international company. You need to be assertive, proactive and professional and able to give full secretarial and administrative support where your diplomatic and communications skills will be put to the test daily.

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR £35,000pa

International Services company seek an excellent administrator who will be able to support the Managing Partner of this very large manufacturing division. Core duties will be to run a wide variety of projects such as client service initiative, sponsorship arrangements and budget planning to name but a few. We are looking for Graduate calibre who will possess IT literacy and have excellent oral and written skills. Personal attributes must include common sense together with drive and creativity. *This role would definitely suit someone who is seeking a new challenge possibly a new direction in their career.* Please apply only if you have the relevant experience and skills.

ZARAK HAY
(rec cons)

Call Sharon Evans now on **0171 247 0303**, Zarak Hay (Rec Cons) 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY

Diana Duggan Associates

Sense of Belonging

to £22,000 + full Bank Benefits (£30,000pkg)

Join the ELITE WORLD of MERCHANT BANKING and TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE! CHOOSE from diverse areas: MARKETING, PERSONNEL, EQUITIES, I.T. and CORPORATE FINANCE. Each position needs SECRETARIAL TRAINING, FLUENT SHORTHAND, a POLISHED appearance and strong MS OFFICE skills. Preferred age 21-25 years. Only AMBITIOUS candidates need apply! PHONE TODAY for an IMMEDIATE interview.

0171 374 2921
5 London Wall Buildings, Finsbury circus EC2M 5NT
(D.D. Rec. Cons.)

Hospitality/Facilities Assistant

c£22k + Perks + Bens

Facilities manager of worldwide IT company based in central London is in need of an assistant with a strong organsational and interpersonal approach. Exp of Microsoft Office (Powerpoint) essential. Previous exp within the facilities field is advantageous.

Call Opus Recruitment on:
0171 486 7921 (day)
0181 954 9432 (evening)

CITY SLICKER to 25k + good bens

There are many secretarial posts where the salary merely represents the excessive hours you put in! Not this one: *Charming, erudite Main Board Director* (Lawyer by profession) seeks a first division P.A. to assist him. Exemplary secretarial skills (sh 90) taken as read, your talent for organisation will be obvious and your eye for detail evident.

As part of a *MAJOR CITY ORGANISATION you will* possess the confidence and poise to liaise with key players, particularly in his absence when travelling overseas. He works hard and plays hard (keen sailor) and you will enjoy a strictly 1-1 format in a hugely rewarding role. Age 24-40.

Tel: Josephine Morrison to 9.00pm. Rec. Cons.

01233 850700
Fax: 01233 850002

Interviews to take place at our offices in Harley St. W.1. where evening appointments are available or in the City.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

(£18,000 - £22,000 pa depending on experience)

International consultancy specialising in trade issues in Europe, Japan, the Far East and North America requires a highly organised person with several years experience of working as a secretary/PA at a senior level.

The successful applicant will have excellent typing and presentation skills and will be fully conversant with Apple Mac. Languages and an interest in international *issues would be an advantage although not essential.*

Responsibilities will include office management, general secretarial and administrative duties, organising seminars, arranging all aspects of international travel, and helping to produce monthly reports.

You should enjoy working on your own initiative in a small but hectic office and be able to prioritise a demanding and diverse workload.

Please apply in writing with cv and a daytime telephone number to. Sarah Shackleton, MGK, 64 Clapham Road, London SW9 0JJ

We will shortly moving to Westminster.

(No Agencies)

Personal Assistant

Excellent salary and benefits available depending on relevant experience.

Having recently acquired another property, the Chief Executive of this expanding privately owned hotel group requires an additional assistant. The ideal applicant should have a background or keen interest in interior design as well as administrative and secretarial skills including shorthand/W4W (100/65)

The position involves an extremely varied workload, to include communication and liaison with architects, *designers and builders, principally relating to a new hotel project as well as various other* in-house refurbishment projects.

Travel to other hotels in the group close to Heathrow and Watford will be required, although the job will be mainly based at The Athenaeum.

Please apply in writing enclosing a full CV, detailing your salary expectations to:
Valerie Brown, The Athenaeum Hotel & Apartments, 116 Piccadilly, LONDON W1V 0BJ

All Box number replies should be addressed to:
BOX No:- ____
C/o The Times Newspapers
P.O. BOX 3553,
Virginia Street,
London E1 9GA

St James's

RECRUITMENT

We have a number of vacancies we are keen to fill from receptionists to *MD's sec.*

Salaries for receptionists start at c£16k and our secretarial from c£18k - £24k.

If you are looking for a new job in the City or West End then contact Sheila or Ann on

0171 439 6288 now!

Deputy Editors Secretary Docklands Up to £18k plus bens

Shorthand good secretarial skills required to work for this exciting newspaper group. Working Tuesday to Saturday 3pm to 10pm

Secretary to Compliance Officer EC3 £17-£18k+

Opportunity to work in a 50/50 Secretarial/Admin role using excellent organisation skills and own initiative. You will need to be educated to O'level standard with a good knowledge of W4W and Excel. Great benefits.

Secretary to Co Sec EC3 (Relocating to W1) To £18k

An interest in law or legal experience would be helpful, along with 60 wpm+ copy/audio for demanding position in friendly env. Using Wordperfect 6. must be skilled with layouts, tables and columns.

Contact Melanie Taylor on 0171 242 1183
Fax 0171 405 5542

Target APPOINTMENTS

B.J. CRAWFORD'S

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SHORTHAND! SHORTHAND! SHORTHAND! IF YOU'VE GOT IT, WE NEED IT

£13,500 - £22,000

Senior or junior, fast or slow - we have the job for you. We have vacancies in **Publishing (£20,000), Sales Promotion (£20,000), PR (c£22,000), Shipping (c£20,000)** and **Politics (£13,500)**. They are all really interesting jobs and all need some form of shorthand. Please phone Eleanor or Vicky and say which job you're interested in.

BJ Crawfords (Rec Cons)
0171 935 9692

LONDON ORCHESTRA

PA to CEO/Artistic Director £20,000

This is a newly appointed CEO with flair and vision who has arrived in London to take one of its leading orchestras into the Millennium. He is motivated and energetic and the role requires a high level of diplomacy and a mature attitude. It is essential that you have a working knowledge of the current classical music world and a genuine enthusiasm for the subject. You will also be an experienced and qualified PA. Languages would be an advantage (Word for Windows, Excel, 50 wpm typing). Please telephone Samantha Phillips.

Pathfinders

0171-434 3511

OFFICE/OPERATIONS MANAGER

c£15,000

Small, lively, entrepreneurial company (10 strong) needs a highly organised, bright, capable individual to get involved in all aspects of running a small *business. You will get lots of responsibility* and a wide range of experience. You must have an excellent telephone manner, lots of enthusiasm, be computer literate/WP literate (40 wpm) and ideally 20-27. Must be a non-smoker.

Send CV to MD, Laserlife, 21 Grand Union Centre, West Row, London, W10 5AS or fax 0181 964 4445

Mercedes-Benz Finance Ltd.

Mercedes-Benz Finance Ltd., provides a wide range of finance, insurance, fleet management and rental services to Mercedes-Benz customers as well as providing the Head Office for Mercedes-Benz Finance Business at Home and Overseas.

BI-LINGUAL PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Reporting to the Managing Director of Mercedes-Benz Finance, you will be engaged in a range of administrative duties including organising travel, managing post and correspondence, preparing Board Papers, international liaison and providing support to the Regional Office team.

Applicants should be fluent in English and German as well as having a good command of another main European Language. Candidates should also be computer literate, with 45 wpm typing and knowledge of Word, Power point and Excel. Previous experience in a Financial Services Company would be advantageous but is not essential.

If you are interested in applying, please send a comprehensive CV together with an indication of current salary, to: Janina Pownall, Mercedes-Benz Finance Ltd., Marlborough Court, Sunrise Parkway, Linford Wood, Milton Keynes MK14 6YR. Please quote Ref: PA1/JP.

Secretary/PA to the Vice-Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor (Sir Brian Follett) is the senior academic and administrative officer in the University. His present secretary is retiring on 30 April 1997, and the University is seeking to replace her from around the same date. Applicants should be able to demonstrate first class secretarial skills, with the ability to work on their own initiative and with minimal supervision. A degree and/or previous experience in a relevant University post would be an advantage.

Salary will be at an appropriate point on the Grade 6 scale:
£16,410 - £19,026 pa (under review).

Applications and further particulars from the Personnel Office, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL (tel: 01203 523685). Please quote reference 25/6C/96.

Closing date for applications 30 January 1997.

UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

Jane Norman

DIRECTORS SECRETARY

Oxford St fashion retail co. H.O. require highly organised, bright, flexible person, aged 20-25, with 50wpm typing Duties to include composing correspondence, personnel administration and secretarial duties. Salary to £15k.

Please apply in writing with CV and photo to:
HR Dept, 153 Oxford Street, London W1R 1TB

Outstanding opportunities to join one of London's Premier Independent Estate Agents

Lettings Negotiators & Trainees
- Knightsbridge & St Johns Wood
Secretary - St Johns Wood
Part Time Secretary - Totteridge (Flexible Hours)

You should be of smart appearance with good telephone manner, typing and communications skills. We offer attractive salaries, genuine prospects for career development and provide training in company systems.

Please send CV to Lisa Ryde, Anscombe & Ringland, 88 St Johns Wood High Street, London NW8 7SH.

ROSS & CRAIG BW

SOLICITORS

Nine Partner West End Solicitors' Practice has 2 exciting opportunities

1 Bilingual legal secretary - fluent English/German speaking and writing for Senior Company/Commercial and Litigation Partner. You will be expected to provide comprehensive support and be self-sufficient. We expect excellent audio skills, proficiency in Word 6, confident computer and telephone manner and overtime flexibility.

2. Practice Administrator/Manager - experienced person required to assume overall responsibility for administration of 40 strong (and expanding) office including personnel function and Partnership support. Computer literacy an advantage.

Salaries according to age and experience.
Apply in writing with CV to Julie Collinge Ross & Craig BW, Swift House, 12A Upper Berkeley Street, London W1H 7PE or Fax 0171 724 6427.

Wanted..........

for this growing firm of head hunters with a large international client base, someone to join our secretarial support team, working in an atmosphere that is informal, lively and often hectic.

The ideal person should have a pleasant telephone manner, basic secretarial skills and a good working knowledge of windows. Training will be given on all other in-house systems.

We want someone with a high level of commitment to both their own career development and that of the company. Ideally, you will have plenty of team spirit and be willing to work hard and become a valued member of our organisation.

Starting salary £12,000 with early reviews - the right person will move up to £14,000 within 3 months. *Hours 9.30am - 6.30pm.*

For more information *please call Julie McCarthy on 0171 404-4089*
Diamond House, 37-38 Hatton Garden, London. EC1N 8FW

Secretary

Small friendly Insurance firm requires secretary for Managing Director.
Good all rounder providing administrative skills with smart presentation, good telephone manner and skilled in W4W 6.0 with 65 w.p.m.
Salary £15,000 per annum.
Please fax/send C.V. to Lorna Chetwynd at Dawson Granville Group,
69/70 Mark Lane,
London EC3R 7HS
Facsimile No. 0171 488 2727.
(No Agencies).

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

Salary: c£20,000 plus benefits

Small busy firm of Chartered Surveyors require a friendly. well presented Audio Secretary/Administrator to join their team. As well as property experience, good proven secretarial skills - typing 70 wpm - and a sound knowledge of W4W are essential. Must be flexible.

Written applications to: E Latham Esq. Latham Yeomans. 9/10 Savile Row, London W1X 1AF.

Strictly no agencies please.

Creative Consultancy:

Esher, Surrey

Personal Assistant/Secretary to principal required for consultancy specialising in design management and property located in new offices in Esher. Should be proactive, well-educated and capable of enhancing the professional and creative image of the consultancy. Must have thorough grasp of MS Office and be capable of producing excellent presentation material. Duties to include general administration of office. Attractive terms for the right person. Please contact Haydn Davies at:

Davies Associates,The Old Bank, 109 Hare Lane
Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 0QZ.

Telephone 01372 460844. Facsimile 01372 470848
E-mail 100647.3267 @ compuserve.com.

هكذا من الأصل

Tel: 0171 680 6806

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586

FIRST CREME

Dynamic highly thought of financial newspaper requires secretarial, computer literate individual to run office, do book-keeping etc. EC2. Salary neg.

Fax CV to Dansi on: 0171 426 3329.

BOND STREET W.1. £14. Delightful firm of international surveyors need a young secretary to join their cheerful team. A lovely job & beautiful offices await you if you can spell, are well-educated and happy to improve your audio speed. JIGSAW RECRUITMENT 0171 373 7779.

ADMINISTRATIVE CREME

ADMINISTRATOR (mature) £15-£20,000 Small Co, W1 to asst MD. Must have initiative, 40wpm, s/hd & d/base exp, exc. opp. to grow with expanding Co. Tel. Insight 0171 379 5179.

GOOD ALL ROUNDER

Needed for fun, lively recruitment consultancy in SW London. Suit 20+ with office experience and good telephone manner. Computer and administration skills essential opportunity for training in recruitment.

Please call Annie at Annies Nannies on 0171 924 6464

SUPER SECRETARIES

ADMINISTRATION Assistant. £23,000 ctc. SW18. This innovative, award winning creative company offers the perfect opportunity for someone highly capable of running all aspects of a company and assisting the Director, especially at site meetings. Apple Mac, filmmaker pro, Ritz accounting all an asset. Please phone Bates Buchanan on 0171 792 2400.

ADMINISTRATOR with basic bookkeeping skills to £18,000 sought by small office of an Int'l Trading Co. Working closely with the Director, WfW & Excel needed to handle basic bookkeeping and some typing of correspondence, faxes & contracts. Call Hodge Recruitment 0171 629 8863.

A financial PA/ Sec to executive Director. £19k+ bens. Top PLC, N7. Projects/ exhibitions/ conferences! 0181 209 1858 Agy.

ADMINISTRATIVE CREME

JUNIOR SECRETARY TO CHAIRMAN'S PA

Small, lively Marketing Consultancy requires an energetic, accurate and dedicated assistant to Chairman's PA. Shorthand an advantage, good typing and word processing skills (WordPerfect 5.1 and Windows 6.1) and excellent telephone manner all essential. Salary £12-13K.

Send CV to: Mrs Jean Garland
Strategy International Ltd
13, The Ivory House
St Katharine Docks, London E1 9AT
Tel: 0171 480 5562. Fax: 0171 488 9643

ADMIN ASSISTANT/Dbase MANAGER
c£12,000

Small, lively, entrepreneurial company (10 strong) needs a highly organised individual to take responsibility for maintaining and developing our in-house database system and help with our marketing activities. You will also get involved in everything else going on in a busy office. You must have an excellent telephone manner, lots of enthusiasm, be computer/WP literate (40 wpm) and ideally 18-23. Must be a non-smoker. Salary c£12,000 depending on experience.

Send CV to MD, LaserLife, 21 Grand Union Centre, West Row, London W10 5AS or fax 0181 964 4445

COX & KINGS TRAVEL

Specialist tour operator to Indian Subcontinent, Latin America & the Middle East requires:

LATIN AMERICA TOURS CONSULTANT
&
INDIAN SUBCONTINENT TOURS CONSULTANT

Both positions are in the sales team, designing, costing and contracting tailor made itineraries for the individual traveller; selling group tours and extensions. Both positions to start as soon as possible

Applicants must have extensive travel experience in the areas and must be computer literate with good writing ability, fast and accurate typing skills and an excellent telephone manner. Previous travel industry experience preferred but not essential.

Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Applications in writing with CV to Charlie Ridout, Cox & Kings, Gordon House, 10 Greencoat Place, London SW1P 1PH

ADMINISTRATIVE CREME

Administrative Assistant

Grant Management Unit - Finance

£13,540 - £18,484pa*

*starting salary unlikely to exceed £16,146pa

- The Arts Council of England's Grant Management Unit is responsible for processing all of the grants offered by our art form departments. The unit is split into two teams. We are looking for an experienced and capable Assistant to provide secretarial and administrative support to one of the teams. Working closely with a Finance Officer and two Assistant Finance Officers, this post is pivotal to ensuring the work of the team runs smoothly.
- Applicants must have at least 1 year's secretarial and office administration experience, preferably within a financial environment, and fast and accurate keyboard skills. Effective communication skills, attention to detail and a flexible approach to work are essential.

For further details and an application form, please send a large (at least 8" x 5") self-addressed envelope, quoting ref: *FIN AA*, to the *Personnel Department, The Arts Council, 14 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3NQ.* Alternatively, telephone 0171 973 6448 between 10am and 4pm only. Minicom users may contact the Council on 0171 973 6564 (for deaf callers only). Closing date for receipt of applications: 11 February 1997, absolute latest.

The Arts Council is committed to an equal opportunities recruitment policy.

THE ARTS COUNCIL OF ENGLAND

The Royal College of Radiologists
EDITORIAL ADMINISTRATOR

London **up to £17,000**

The Royal College of Radiologists is the professional and examining body for clinical radiologists and oncologists; each of its two faculties produces an academic journal. Its small secretariat requires an editorial administrator primarily for its Journal of Clinical Radiology.

Secretarial and administrative experience, plus organisational ability are required for this busy and varied post. Experience of committee work, taking minutes, and a medical background would be relevant. You must be able to maintain attention to detail whilst working quickly and accurately under pressure, often for Officers who are based outside the College. This is a "hands on" post needing good word processing skills and an aptitude for computer use.

Depending on experience, salary will be up to £17,000 p.a. plus benefits.

Please send your full CV with a covering letter to:
The Administration Manager, The Royal College of Radiologists
38 Portland Place, London W1N 4JQ
Closing date: Wednesday 29 January for interviews on Wednesday 5 February.

SUPER SECRETARIES

A PA/ Sec to senior Ptnr. £21k+Bens. Renowned Acc'ts. 9-6pm, no overtime! SH/WP 100/60 0181 209 1858 Agy.

ANTIQUES/ Property. PA/Bookkeeper To £20K Chelsea based. Career Grp. 0171 470 7060 agy.

A team secretary, 20's who enjoys Powerpoint for City bank. £20,000+ excellent package. 0171 377 8600. SECRETARIES PLUS, the secretarial consultants.

BANKING Ex. Career. Grad/ A level Ed. Ex IT skills (Word6, Excel, Powerpoint) for several treasury/ new positions within European Invt. Bank could involve some travel. Call Venture Plus Per. 0171 493 5122.

CLAPHAM Small book publisher needs very organised SEC/PA TO MD 60 wpm, plus s/h and Apple exp ideally. Min 3 years office experience. Full CV and immaculate letter stating salary to Mrs L O'Mara, 9 Lion Yard, Tremadoc Rd SW4 7NQ.

CLASSIC PA role supporting Chairman of established Sports & Leisure Insurance Company. This is a demanding role requiring a high level of competence and professionalism. You must be articulate and well presented with a minimum of 3 years' Board level experience. Good shorthand (80 wpm+) and excellent secretarial skills needed. Please call Miles Stribling at Knightsbridge Secretaries on 0171 468 0400 (Rec Cons)

CONSERVATION Charity. Rare opportunity for graduate calibre secretary/events co-ordinator to join prestigious conservation charity working at the highest level within the fundraising department. In addition to undertaking general secretarial duties you will be involved in event organisation and responsible for your own administrative projects. At least two years experience with proven ability to work at the highest standard on your own projects, and a poised, proactive attitude essential. Based Central London. Salary - £15,795, suit candidate with genuine interest in conservation. Please telephone Maggie on 0171 831 7220 - Prospect Temps (Rec Cons) for more information.

£20,000 COVENT GARDEN Secretary for young fun company with good Powerpoint and Excel. Sheila Childs Recruitment 0171 437 3111.

EXCITING international start up company requires experienced, well presented receptionist/ telephone operator. Other duties include secretarial + some admin. Salary £13,000 per annum. Location - Central London. Send C.V. to: Atrio Ltd. 26 Bloomsbury Square London WC1A 2JP No Agencies Please.

FRENCH Managing Partner needs a competent PA Lots of organising & looking after 5 other secretaries. Would prefer a 2nd language. Good skills £20-23k T.J.&Co. 0171 838 0023

JUNIOR secretary for Australian Executive Recruitment Co, C.London. c£12,000. Improve your skills in supportive and friendly team. 40wpm. King & Toben Rec. 0171 629 9648.

MARKETING Asst/Sec £18,000. Exciting opportunity in international company for secretary wanting a marketing orientated role producing top quality presentations and a proven ability to edit text. Would suit proactive team player who wants career prospects. 55 wpm typing + W4Ws, Excel & Powerpoint. Call 0171 637 3212 Summers By Two Rec Cons

KENSINGTON. Appeals Director of a leading Military Charity requires an intelligent, mature secretary. You will be involved in a variety of projects so the workload is rarely dull. Min 55 wpm typing. Knowledge of Word and Excel an advantage. 45-55 yrs. £14,400, 20 days holiday and excellent pension. Please call Tam Lyons on 0171 434 4512. Crone Corkill Rec cons.

MARKETING Asst/ sec - outgoing proactive personality needed to organise corporate events etc. SW3. £17,000+ (OTE £20,000). 0171 493 7001, SECRETARIES PLUS, rec. cons.

MATERNITY cover for small team in architectural/ construction management in super Mayfair offices. Knowledge of building industry terminology and activity helpful. Usual sec duties + ensuring smooth running of office. Heavy volume audio, Word 6, Excel 5 are essential & Lotus Organiser useful. Start Jan 29. Sal acc. Please forward CV to Fiona Dunlop on fax 0171 495 4374 include sal req.

MEDIA GROUP seek bright P.A/Sec to Assist Comm Dir. Involved with acquisitions and media partners, you must be a quick thinker, with good presentation, excellent skills and be highly confidential. S'hand preferred. £20,000+ bens.T.J. & Co. 0171 838 0023

OFFICE MANAGER/PA - Shipping Company in W1. WfW, Typing, Excel. Directors' Secretaries' 0171 629 9323.

£20,000 + Overtime + Bonus for West End Corporate Finance Team Secretary, early-mid 20s. Directors' Secretaries 0171 629 9323.

PA/Secretary WC1, c£10,000 neg. Leading PR Recruitment Consultancy seeks PA/Sec for Senior Consultant. Bright, well presented, WfW, accurate typist, 50wpm, excellent telephone manner, flexible, office experience desirable, bright school leaver considered. Small, young, happy team - ideal first job. Call Juliet or Michelle: 0171 434 4243.

PROP/Audio sec £18,000 for new position in prestigious Mayfair estates off. Must enjoy typing + computers. Call Venture Plus Personnel 0171 493 5122

PUBLICITY £20,000. World famous international company seeks confident contributor who is career secretary for this hi profile Vice President for International Publicity. Must cope well in pressurised environment. 80/55 skills + Windows + spreadsheets required. Call 0171 437 3212 Summers By Two Rec Cons.

RICHMOND AREA - Conference Admin Assistant - £16,000, early-mid 20s. Directors' Secretaries 0171 629 9323.

SEC/ASST for fundraising dept of famous charity. Good Sec/ Organ skills for this varied role. Must have maturity and flexibility. £14,200p.a. + 25 days holiday. T.J. & Co. 0171 838 0023

SECRETARY/Person Friday required full time (weekdays) for West End antiques shop. Must be able to use word processor (IBM Microsoft Works). Shorthand an advantage. Telephone 0171 493 2714.

£17,000 Second jobber, mostly admin in busy W1 office. Sheila Childs 0171 437 3111.

SECRETARY required for busy Architects office in WC1. Wordperfect experience essential. Please write with CV to John Simpson & Partners, 29 Great James St WC1N 3ES.

SMALL privately owned Secretarial/PA recruitment consultancy seeks salary confident Consultant to expand and run temporary desk. Pleasant west end offices. Highly competitive salary according to experience plus 5 weeks holiday. Reply to Box No 2787.

TEAM sec £16k. Ideal opp to join well known city co, has own leisure fac (gym, s/pool etc) - small opp for progression, must have 2 yrs exp. Diamond Personnel 0171 929 2977.

£22,000 + 5 weeks Hols - SE1. True P.A. required for M.D. & Deputy Chairman. Lots of admin, look after Co. flat and visitors, distribute Board Minutes, maintain staff records, arrange conferences & meetings. Terrific commercial company and friendly, forward thinking people to work with. Call Alison Bradley at Cross Selection: 0171 377 8500 fax: 0171 377 5599.

WINE £17,500 Delightful job for French-speaking PA to MD Sheila Childs Recruitment 0171 437 3111.

£15-20,000 Work in Covent Garden for a young, go-ahead Co. Supporting a small team of 1:1 they need your sound secretarial & admin skills to keep them climbing the ladder of success! Fast accurate typing. Word 6, outgoing, hardworking, organised? Call Brindley-Clark Assoc 0171 734 9821.

TEMPTING TIMES

TEMP Sec for approximately four weeks 24th February 1997 - 25th March inclusive for Knightsbridge Letting Specialist. Windows 3.1. Responsible trained Secretary with experience. Salary negotiable. Please ring 0171 581 5877.

RECEPTION SELECTION

ANDERSON HOARE needs receptionists! Chelsea Interior Designers £16,500, PR Co £14,000 etc.. For more ideas ring us on 0171 824 8821 (Rec Cons)

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

JBR RECRUITMENT Consultant req for small very established W1 Sec. Cons. We have exc. client base & are looking for another key person to join our fun, lively team. Superb interpersonal skills, individual style & self-motivation essent. 21-28yrs. Excellent commission structure. Val Wade Rec Cons. 0171 437 3793.

RECEPTION SELECTION

RECEP/Sec Chelsea £16-18K (Basic sh) Superb opp/ lots of client contact/ organise negotiations/ briefing clients. 50wpm basic WfW age 24+. Call Elite Rec 0181 780 3378

£16,000 + free lunches ++, receptionist/ telephonist for busy, varied role in superb offices in S.W.1. 0171 493 7001. SECRETARIES PLUS, rec. cons.

RECEPTIONIST
£20,000

Super smart professional receptionist for SW1 American consultancy. Age 22-30 you should be happy to be part of a team, and willing to wear a smart suit daily.

King & Toben Recruitment
Tel: 0171 629 9648

RECEPTIONIST to £14,500. Professional, polished and well groomed 'Ground Floor Receptionist' sought for large multi-tenanted City based building. Full reception duties. Would suit 'people person' with previous relevant experience. Age 30s - 40s. Call 0171 437 3212 Summers By Two Rec Cons

CHELSEA Full or Part Time. This is a great fun job for either one person or two part time people to share. Smart appearance is key for clients you will meet within this elite, charming Co. £14-15,000 or pro rata. Please call Bates Buchanan on 0171 792 2400

PUBLIC RELATIONS WC2 £12 + BONUS + benefits. Successful PR co needs a super-smart 2nd receptionist to share reception duties, organise meeting rooms, answer phones etc. This busy job offers lots of variety. Age 18-22. JIGSAW RECRUITMENT 0171 373 7779.

WANTED FOR FRIENDLY CHELSEA ESTATE AGENTS

Enthusiastic Receptionist required for a busy switchboard. You will need to be presentable, reliable and have an excellent telephone manner. You will also be required to deal with general enquiries from the public. Salary on application

Please fax your CV to 0171 351 3740 or telephone Daisy on 0171 351 2383

RECEPTIONISTS
TOP RATES
TEMP / LONG-TERM

Our prestigious corporate clients, based in City / West End / Docklands seek immaculately presented receptionists dedicated to providing high levels of client service. You should have reception / switchboard experience + excellent interpersonal skills. For immediate interview please call Rhodita Marsell at Tate Appointments on 0171 408 0425.

Tate TEMP SPECIALISTS

NON-SECRETARIAL

AMERICA'S best selling brand of skin care and colour cosmetics req. ladies to train as beauty consultants with opp. to move into management. F.T/P.T. Full training and excellent company support. Call Angela Humphries on 07000 560252.

SEL. AIR/LA- 'Mrs Doubtfire' required for busy family, 2 boys aged 8 & 10 both parents often travel. Driver, non-smoker. Car provided, would suit mature educated lady. Superb terms. Telephone and fax 01884 253384

COURSE Manager 324k for major city co, exp in training or project management, dealing in courses bookings etc. varied responsible role. Diamond Personnel 0171 929 2977.

JUNIOR Administrator for Fashion Hse W1. Some retail exp. - sales potential. Keyboard Skills. 12K Tel: 0171 259 6999 Vi John, Beauchamp Bureau

PERSONNEL MANAGER £25k + Exc bens. A self sufficient, fully IPD qualified person is required to co-ordinate and manage personnel & training issues at all levels within this young & lively consultancy (100+ Staff). Superb potential to progress in the role. Age 25 to mid 30's. Call Hodge Recruitment 0171 629 8863.

MEDICAL SECRETARIES

MEDICAL SECRETARY (orthopaedics) Part time 22 hours per week. Hourly rate £12.60. Busy medico-legal practice. Lots of audio typing WP5.1. Start 10.2.97 covering maternity leave. Send CV to Mr Vanhegan, 79 Harley Street, W1N 1DE

PART TIME VACANCIES

2 half days per week - £8-9.00ph - Sec/Admin/Office Manager needed for small Co. Knowl. of Word, Excel. Interesting environ. Call Brindley-Clark Assoc 0171 734 9821.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT
BELGRAVIA, SW1

Motivated, enthusiastic person sought for new opportunity within exclusive private placement agency (butlers, cooks, chauffeurs, nannies etc.) Previous experience in recruitment an advantage. A sense of humour and flexible approach most important. Good prospects and happy working environment as part of successful team. Please write enclosing C.V. or fax to:

Serena le Maistre & Associates
10 Lower Belgrave Street
Belgravia, London SW1W 0LJ
Fax no: 0171 730 9777

PART TIME VACANCIES

£20-22k pro-rata. (Mornings only, 5 days a week). Beautiful riverside studio offices of businessman/entrepreneur who wants a smart, quick-thinking PA. Good computer knowledge is important and rusty shorthand or speedwriting is essential. If you have 50wpm typing and you are 25-45yrs call Maine-Tucker on 0171 734 7341.

MEETINGS ROOMS Co-ordinators - 2 positions (1 AMs, 1PMs) for self contained conference suite in top international co. Booking rooms, co-ordinating all facilities & all hospitality for attendants - full responsibility for the unit. Previous conf org/reception exp an advantage. £9.5K for 25 hrs a week. Appointments Bi-Language Tel 0171 734 3380 Fax 0171 499 0568

PART-TIME Secretary required with up to date computer skills for busy journalist to work 1 day a week in Central London with some extra days if required to do personal and general admin. Good references essential. Send CV giving availability: 27 Albert Bridge Road London SW11 4PX.

£23,000+ pro rata Jobshare. A rare opportunity to combine your PA & Office Management skills in a genuinely interesting jobshare. Providing full PA/secretarial support to the Chairman/MD of this small, friendly City company, you will also be responsible for all aspects of office management in the Office Manager's absence. (Wed/Thurs/Fri 9.30-5.30) 60 typing & windows. The Recruitment Company 0171 831 1220.

SECRETARY 4hrs a day, Mon-Fri Full sec/admin support, to small dept in top international co. 50 wpm typing min, computer literate, team player essential c£18,000 pro rata Appointments Bi-language Tel 0171 734 3380 Fax 499 0568

TEMP TO PERM VACANCIES

MATERNITY LEAVE - PA needed to join prestigious W1 company (Feb-Sept) Age 25-35 Directors' Secretaries 0171 629 9323.

TEMPORARIES with good skills - WfW, Excel, Powerpoint, age 23-30. Directors' Temporaries 0171 629 9323.

LEGAL LA CRÈME

LEGAL float x 2 £20k, top law firm, excell skills & presentation. Diamond Personnel 0171 929 2977.

RUN THE Office - 60% office admin..40 % typing - EC2 Company, Divorce, Employment, Partner level. Excellent salary - legal exp. ess.. Knowledge of Italian helpful. Your chance to run the show! Call Sheila Whitehead 0171 556 7075 Roberts & Young rec. cons

LETTINGS & SALES NEGOTIATORS

FOXTONS
PROPERTY NEGS

EXPERIENCED NEGOTIATORS

Opportunities exist for top quality sales/ lettings negs. Must live in Cen. London. Ideally aged 25-30. OTE £45k + car. Enquiries treated with the strictest of confidence.

Tel 0171 373 5533

TRAINEE PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

Join the exciting world of central London Property with the City's most progressive agent. we require a dynamic young trainee. Self motivated, well presented. No previous required, but a will to become successful. Must live Cen London. Ideally aged 22-25 yrs. Full training given. £12k + car.

Tel 0171 373 5533

LETTINGS NEGOTIATOR

We require a Lettings Negotiator for our busy South Kensington office. Applicants should have some letting experience and a good sense of humour. Salary, Commission and Bonus. Send CV to 13 Old Brompton Road, SW7 3HZ. Call Sally Sears 0171-581-1741.

prodrive

Through its professionalism and determination to succeed, Prodrive has built up an enviable reputation in motorsport. They are the World Rally Champions with Colin McRae and Subaru and also run the Honda British Touring Car Team. The Company is seen as a symbol of success in the automotive industry, displaying the ability to combine entrepreneurial innovation with disciplined management. The Company has now developed into three commercial divisions: Engineering, Sales and Motorsport.

PA to Marketing Director

The Marketing Services Group at Prodrive consists of 20 staff who hold responsibility for sponsor liaison as well as corporate marketing. The Group is headed by the Marketing Director who is seeking a new PA.

The position holds great responsibility and requires the highest standard of professionalism and dedication. The environment is highly pressured and requires the ability to control multiple projects with autonomy and diplomacy.

Prodrive works with major global blue-chip companies and the Marketing Director requires support from an individual with experience of conducting business at this level. The successful candidate will have some eight years experience with a strong track record as a PA at Director level. Outstanding computer and shorthand skills are essential.

Prodrive's Banbury headquarters are located at junction 11 of the M40, twenty minutes from Oxford.

Apply by sending your cv including current salary details to:

Sue Brown, Human Resources Manager,
Prodrive Limited,
Banbury,
Oxfordshire OX16 7XS
Telephone 01295 273355

Experienced Legal Secretary

required

with experience of working at Partner level dealing with both contentious and non-contentious work. Must be capable of providing quick and accurate documentation, have good audio and communication skills, be conversant with Microsoft Word 6.0, possess a sense of humour and remain calm under pressure.

Experienced Receptionist/ telephonist to operate Meridian Option 11 Switchboard. Must be well spoken, have a pleasant personality and have experience of a legal or professional practice.

Hours 10.30am to 7pm Monday to Friday.

Please apply in writing, enclosing C.V. and stating salary required to:-
Sylvia Shaw, Goodman Derrick, 90 Fetter Lane,
London EC4A 1EQ
No Agencies Please.

Multilingual Crème

CZECH - speaking sec/PA needed for busy banking job (early start). Good WP/typing skills essential (MS Office). Lots of diary management, travel arrangements & report-formatting. Pls contact Sabina on (0171 390 7000 CRONE CORKILL MULTILINGUAL Rec Cons).

BASINGSTOKE, Euro linguist for research/admin (50/50 role). Involved, responsible post to £18K. Tel: 0181 810 7839.

FRENCH sec/admin to intl finance co. High admin content so excl org skills ess. Consider excl c/leavers. £16/17k Language Matters 0171 930 1811

BILINGUAL German Sec to dirs of Int. Bank. Arr. events, diaries, travel, liaise at all levels. Solid sec skills & exp ess. £18k+ Bens. 0171 287 0424 Language Recruitment Services

CUSTOMER Services We have opportunities available in in Fleet, Marlow and London. 2nd European language essential. Good career opportunities. 6 months customer services experience essential. Appointments Bi-Language Tel 0171 734 3380 Fax 0171 499 0568

Tel: 0171 287 6060
Fax: 0171 494 4652

BOYCE

ITALIAN &/OR SPANISH
to £28,000 + bens

- £19,000 + bank bens. Team secretary with Italian in European Corporate Finance 60wpm typing. MSOffice and 18 months experience preferred.

- £22,500 Spanish (Italian useful). M&A department of City Bank. Must have previous experience working for a team of Executives.

- to £28,000 + bens. Italian spkg Sales Assistant in Derivatives section of trading floor. Previous banking experience essential and SFA registration advantageous.

Tel: 0171 287 6060
Fax: 0171 494 4652

BOYCE

GERMAN
£20,000 + bens

Expanding City Investment bank seeks dynamic self starter with previous secretarial experience to work for a team of Executives based in Securities as their Research Secretary. As an ideal applicant you will have fluent German, excellent secretarial skills (60wpm typing) and be educated to at least A level standard. This is a varied and often pressurised role and would suit an individual who enjoys working for a team in a busy, hectic environment. A knowledge of Powerpoint essential. Please call Manuela for more information.

PA SEC WITH LANGUAGES
£26,000 + Bens

This international Director is looking for a true PA with excellent secretarial skills and fluent French along with Spanish or German to join his growing team based in North London. This role offers total involvement from staff supervision to client contact.

Please call Caroline on 0171 499 5881
Adecco Elite (Rec Cons)
16 Lansdowne Row,
Berkeley Sq., London W1X 7LN

Adecco Elite

LANGUAGE MATTERS

FRENCH CAREER BREAK £18-20k + bank bens
New expanding Div of leading bank req French bil secs for admin/support roles. High admin content within new Anglo French team. Fl French w gd sec exp [illegible] + prev banking exp pref. 22+

BANK ON YOUR GERMAN £19k + bank bens
German biling sec for Euro coverage team in global invest bank. Deputise and liaise w all German spk Euro countries. Suit gd organiser w gd typ/PC skills. 22+ Similar posts... German sec at intl bank £15-15k... German PA [illegible]

SPANISH SUCCESS £18-20k + bank bens
Further your career as a sec Spanish sec in city co. Lynchpin role acting as support to bankers and supervising other secs. Challenging + involved role. 24+

PS...Russian recep (Eng M/T) £13k... Italian sec £19.5k... In reception £14k... French personnel sec £16k... French [illegible] £14k... and many more.

Tel: 0171 930 1811 Rec Cons Fax: 0171 925 0956
Carrara House, 20 Embankment Place, London WC2N 6NN

FLUENT GERMAN SPEAKING SECRETARY

Sought by small, friendly German Property Company based in the West End. In addition to translation work, you will need to have good audio and copy typing, (Microsoft Office 95), be able to produce documentation to a high standard and layout, excellent telephone manner and a good communication skills.

Please send CV and current salary with a hand written letter to:
Amanda Orr
Miller International
Sackville House
40 Piccadilly
LONDON W1V 9PA

BILINGUAL French sec (+Italian or Spanish) to 3 dirs of dynamic Co. Varied role: org travel, diaries, translations, assist in marketing duties, £17k+ Bens. Language Recruitment Services 0171 287 0424

BILINGUAL German Sec / Personnel Administrator for major N.London Co. Int. liaison & general personnel duties. £18k Language Recruitment Services 0171 287 0424

£25,000 French-speaking Executive PA for very busy Chief Executive of nationwide healthcare group. Sheila Childs Recruitment 0171 437 3111.

FRENCH into English translator, Slough, technical env. 16-20K. Tel: 0181 810 7839 Kerr Bilingual.

FRENCH/ITA Sec for capital mkts team. Suit bright self starter. Grd + 6-12 mths banking exp. Excl WP/Typ skills. £19k Language Matters 0171 930 1811

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CRICKET

England aiming to expand on hosts' limited horizons

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN AUCKLAND

THE fact that England appear able to beat New Zealand even when they can beat almost nobody else preys heavily on the national psyche here. Of all the significant nations in the cricket world, New Zealand stand alone in treating England with a deference they hardly deserve.

Since the start of the 1990s, England have lost nine Test series and won only five. Three of those victories have come against New Zealand: 1-0 in each of the short home series in 1990 and 1994 and 2-0 in the last three-match rubber in this country.

It is now more than ten years since New Zealand won a Test match against England, which may help to explain the local pessimism with a new series about to begin. Whether or not it was valid to claim that England carried a superiority complex to Zimbabwe, the issue does not arise here. It is New Zealand suffering the complex and it is one born of inferiority.

Events on this tour have reinforced the feeling. England have become bad travellers of late, apparently unable to adapt to alien conditions, yet here, where the climate, the culture and the pitches are evocative of home, they win routinely. The players are content here; they expect to win. One senses that most of New Zealand expects it, too.

The mood was summed up yesterday by Blair Pocock, who captained the Northern Districts side beaten inside three days by the touring team. Pocock will open the New Zealand batting on Friday, but he was not exactly talking a good game when he said: "I've seen all their bowlers now and they are a very fine side."

If that hints at fatalism, it will not go down well with Steve Rixon. His job, as the latest in a bewildering sequence of New Zealand coaches, is to instil greater self-belief. He began by having to overcome resentment that the post had gone to an Australian, but his methods and man-management are now attracting praise.

Rixon, the Australia wicketkeeper for 13 Tests up to 1985 and more recently a successful coach of New South Wales, has called on two of New Zealand cricket's role models, Martin Crowe and Sir Richard Hadlee, for help. Such men would have excelled in any era but, since their departure, New Zealand have not come close to replacing them.

Daryl Foster, 58, yesterday announced his retirement as the Kent coach for personal reasons. The former coach of Western Australia had been with the county for five years.

The role models now are the likes of Stephen Fleming and Simon Doull, players whose popularity is based more on fashion and expectation than solid accomplishments. Apart from the charismatic Chris Cairns, the New Zealand side lacks star quality and the shallowness of the talent pool is expressed by the continued presence in the team of Dipak Patel, 38, and the fact that Roger Twose would be an automatic selection had he not declared himself unavailable. Neither was near to England selection before opting for a new nationality.

The problems are exacerbated by the attempts of the marketing men, prevalent here, to create a new audience for cricket. The effect has been to deflect the attention of the leading players away from four and five-day cricket.

It is not just the one-day internationals foisted upon the national team, nor even the domestic Shell Cup limited-overs league, that have occupied them since early December. Just to add to the unhelpful distractions, New Zealand now play something called Cricket Max.

This is the brainchild, if it can be dignified as such, of Crowe, and it involves, believe it or not, completing a two-innings match inside 3½ hours. Each innings lasts ten overs and double runs can be scored for straight hits passing between two flag-waving sentries, so that teams think nothing of chasing 30 or more in the final over.

The games are staged on Sunday afternoons and are doubtless great fun to watch in a frenetic, athletic, unsophisticated way. They bear little resemblance to the real thing, however, and, as they are often scheduled between days of a first-class fixture, do little for a player's technical stability.

Cricket may be heading this way all over the world, with some places just moving more slowly than others, but the impression is that New Zealand are hotfooting it to an untapped market for the new millennium. Even their regulation one-day games are now subject to mid-match "entertainment" that would make Long Room moustaches twirl.

Amid such contrivance and cabaret, Test cricket is in danger of losing its identity in New Zealand and it will be fascinating to see how the public responds in Auckland this coming weekend. Many, I suspect, will prefer to wait for the one-day jamboree next month — not just because a party comes with the package, but because there is a confidence that New Zealand can win in that arena.

Bledsoe aims to keep date with eternity

Oliver Holt on the talented quarterback determined to fulfil his potential at last

An hour in New Orleans, Blanche Dubois says in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, is not just an hour but "a little piece of eternity dropped into your hands". On Sunday evening, at the Louisiana Superdome here, the pieces will not be so much dropping as hurtling into outstretched palms, propelled there by the arm of Drew Bledsoe.

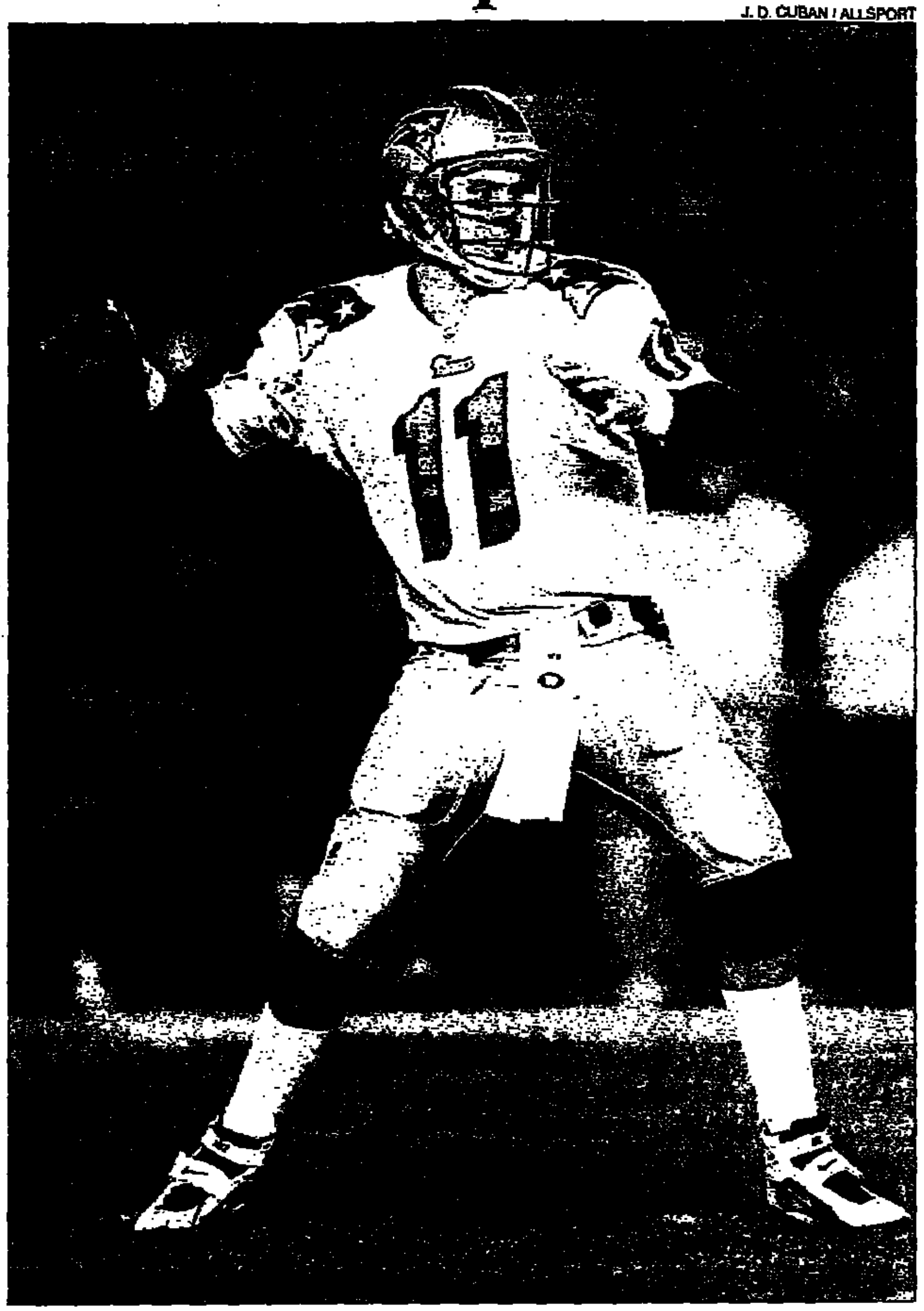
Bledsoe is a young man for whom the words of Tennessee Williams have more relevance than most. A quarterback who was promised eternity before his professional career with New England Patriots had really started, he seemed to have had it ripped away when the critics turned on him last season and said that they must have been mistaken about his nascent greatness.

SUPERBOWL XXXI NEW ORLEANS

In four days, though, when the Patriots take on Green Bay Packers in Super Bowl XXXI, Bledsoe, 24, could win it all back. If he can inspire his team to a surprise victory over the Packers and do what he has hardly ever done before, by performing to his potential in a crucial game, he will finally establish himself as the leader of the new generation of quarterbacks, the heir to Dan Marino, Jim Kelly and John Elway.

"This is the chance for me to prove that I am a great player," Bledsoe said yesterday. "When people look back, they class great quarterbacks as the ones who have played well in Super Bowls and won Super Bowls.

"Statistics and touchdown passes and how many interceptions you threw; those are things that are looked at from day to day and from week to week. When they look back ten years from now, nobody is going to remember what my passing efficiency rating was during the season, but they will say: 'Hey, he had a great game in the Super Bowl.' This is the ultimate showcase."



J. D. CUBAN / ALLSPORT

The accuracy of Bledsoe's passing may decide the outcome of Super Bowl XXXI

Bledsoe possesses an arm so strong that his team-mates say he could throw the ball across the Mississippi as it wends its way lugubriously through the city towards its delta. The Patriots rely on that arm and, if Bledsoe does not play well on Sunday, the Packers will win the Super Bowl.

It has been that way since New England made Bledsoe the No 1 pick in the college draft of 1993. He excelled in his first season and in his second he led the National Football League in passing with 4,555 yards, quickly becoming the youngest player to pass for more than 10,000 yards.

New England knew a jewel when they saw one and made him one of the highest-paid players in the league by handing him a seven-year contract extension worth $42 million (about £25 million). That was when the trouble started. Two dislocated shoulders disrupted last season and he lost his confidence. In 1995 he was the lowest-rated quarterback in the American Football Conference.

"Maybe when I signed the contract," Bledsoe said. "I felt a little like I was making as much as 15 players, so I tried to do more than just my job. Instead of playing like I always had, I started to think about what more I could do. At the start of this season I realised it was time to get back to what I am."

His instincts will have to be pin sharp, his arm at its strongest, if the Patriots are to beat the Packers, who, as befits the National Football Conference champions, are prohibitive favourites. Green Bay, with their own gifted quarterback, Brett Favre, rarely fail to put a healthy quota of points on the board and the onus will be on Bledsoe to provide the riposte.

He is not a running, scrambling quarterback. When he gets the ball, he tends to stay where he is, in the pocket formed by his offensive linemen, waiting to throw to an available receiver. This season the magic has returned. He led the Patriots to 11 wins out of 16 games in the regular season and destroyed Pittsburgh Steelers in the first of the play-offs with an early passing barrage.

He has also been helped by the development of the rookie wide receiver, Terry Glenn, the continued excellence of the tight end, Ben Coates, and the mellowing of his relationship with Bill Parcells, the hot-tempered New England coach.

Some critics have accused him of losing his nerve when he is confronted with onrushing defensive linemen. At the end of last season, one of the Boston newspapers called him "a little weenie who can't cope under pressure". Reggie White, the most fearsome of the Packers who will line up against Bledsoe, hinted at the same thing. "When he's hot, he's hot," White said. "But if you can get some pressure on him, you can get him rattled."

Even that problem, though, should be possible for Bledsoe to solve. A native of Walla Walla, Washington State, he has the unflappable air of a laid-back country boy and his wife, Mara, says he has taught her patience. If he is protected a little from White and his cohorts, that patience should see him through.

Mere desire should not be his destination. Like Blanche, Bledsoe may be bound for Elysian Fields.

Chartered Institute of Taxation Associateship exams, November, 1996

The Chartered Institute of Taxation

Successful candidates in the Associateship Examination held in November 1996

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The Institute Medal for the best overall performance. Duncan William George Montgomery (Deloitte & Touche, Birmingham)

The Ian Walker Medal for the best overall performance in the paper on Tax Administration, Professional Responsibilities and Ethics. Suzanne Pamela Rogerson (KPMG, Milton Keynes)

The Spofforth Medal for the paper on Personal Tax and Trust Taxation. Sophie Natasha Hill (BPP Holdings plc, London)

The John Wood Medal for the paper on Business Taxation. Stuart Anthony Jarrold (Ernst & Young, Leeds)

The Avery Jones Medal for the paper on Practical Implications, Interaction and Tax Planning. Mathew Raymond Oliver (Allison & Humphreys, Solicitors, London)

The Butterworth Prize for the highest total marks. Duncan William George Montgomery (Deloitte & Touche, Birmingham)

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Julie Anne Davies-Brown (Latham Crossley & Davis, Chartered Accountants, Chorley); Sophie Natasha Hill (BPP Holdings plc, London); Duncan William George Montgomery (Deloitte & Touche, Birmingham); Suzanne Pamela Rogerson (KPMG, Milton Keynes)

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The Ivison Medal for the highest marks for the paper on Personal Taxation. Charles William Lefeaux Dunn (Arthur Andersen, London)

The Jennings Medal for the highest marks for the paper on Business Taxation. Arun Setty (Lowndes Lambert Group (Insurance Brokers), Swindon)

The Tolley Prize for the highest overall marks. Christie Alexander Buck (Arthur Andersen, London)

Distinctions

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Kazamia M (London); Keller S D (Swindon); Khosla P (London); Kingsley J F (Crawley); Kiendjian N (Edinburgh); Koon Y-L A (Orpington)

Lambert J D (Cambridge); Lang A R (Watford); Lant R H (London); Lawrie J (London); Le Roux L-A (Castel, Guernsey); Leggat E C (Glasgow); Lewis M P (Addlestone); Liu C K-K (Reading); Lloyd J (Manchester); Loch J C (Horsham); Lockwood R K (London); Lothian C S (Colchester); Lumb K (Kingston upon Thames)

Mackie I W (London); Macpherson A C (London); Macrae S S L (Glasgow); Madden J M (Birmingham); Maddox C L (Manchester); Mancini J C (Petersfield); Maplethorpe P A (Grantham); Markham R P (Newbury); Marsland S J (Romsey); McCall I (Harrow); McCorquodale F (Hexham); McCowen I D (London); McGlyne G J (London); McGuire K A (Haslemere); McIlroy B P (Manchester); McIntyre P J (Isleworth); McMullen R (Reigate); Medes J C (Gravesend); Meganey C I (Dundee); Menezes J X P (Sutton); Mills R M (Cirencester); Moncur J C (Edinburgh); Moore A J (Southampton); Moore G J (Glasgow); Mossom S E (Lincoln); Mullins J L (Rugeley); Myers D W (Leeds)

Needham M (Liverpool); Neville C L (Basingstoke); *Newns R L (London); Newsham S N (London); Nolan M B (Glasgow); Norrie E I (London)

O'Brien K S (London); O'Neill J (Wigan)

Page L (Coventry); Patel J (Croydon); Paul C L (London); Peak H S (Altrincham); Pearce Tanya C (London); Pearson S (Warwick); Pellegrini P (Birmingham); Perry J A (Maidenhead); Pollard S J (Hemel Hempstead); *Proctor P A (Leeds)

Quinn A G (Redditch)

Radford M J (Brighton); Rajpold R (London); Redhead P K (Leeds); Reynolds V J (Farnham); Ridley S (Newcastle upon Tyne); Roberts F M (London); Rogers P R (London); Rogers S R (Blandford Forum); Routley D E (Sheffield); Rowlands D M (Sittingbourne); Rowlands M L (Bournemouth); Ruby L H F (Farnborough)

Sangyam S (London); Scholefield S J (Bolton); Screech S J (Porth); Sears N H (Upminster); Selvidge L J (London); +*Setty A (Swindon); Shah S N (London); Sheppard S J (Ipswich); Sherriff I (Leeds); Shirran A J (London); Singh S B (Halesowen); Smith C F (Enfield); Smith C R (London); Smith D J (Stoke-on-Trent); Sperrings T J (Bristol); Spratt D A R (Harrow); Stainforth P K (London); Stanojlovic P A (Barnet); Steel C L (London); Steel T J (Cambridge); Stenhouse R P (Leeds); Stent S J (London); Stevenson M J (Lincoln); Stewart A E (Glasgow); Stocks S A (Weybridge); Storr Y (Skipton); Strangwood W A (Southampton); Stubbs J L (Reading); Surrage A K (London); Sutton J E (Ipswich); Swinton R A (Harrogate)

Taylor A T M (Manchester); Taylor C E M (Reading); Taylor J G M (Abingdon); Taylor J (Edinburgh); Taylor R J (London); Teare J M (Douglas, Isle of Man); Thomas A W (London); Thomason A J (London); Threlfall D G (Leeds); Tilbury A G (Bedford); Tinker L K (Salisbury); Tobin S J (Wirral); Tombs M S J (Sittingbourne); Tooth J C (Gateshead); Tryphonopoulos E C (London); Tyerman M J (Crowborough); Tyler R (Maidstone)

Vahidy A V (Chester); Varia M (London)

Waller A J (Leeds); Walsh C J (Lewes); Ward J A J (Ashford); Wardle D J (London); Watson J L (Denmead); Weller D J (London); Wheeldon S (Canterbury); Whitaker C R (London); Whitehead S (London); Wilkins J M (Upminster); Wills A J (Manchester); Wilson S R (London); Wolstenholme A (Rugby); Wong W T (London); Woodfield A J (Stockport); Woodward D K (Ely); Wordsworth C S (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Yarrow J A (Ely)

Zaremba E A (London)

In addition 215 candidates passed the paper on the Principles of Law and 245 the paper on the Principles of Accounting. Of these the following received commendations:

The Principles of Accounting

Blackshaw, L A (Kidsons Impey, Manchester); Blaker, M E (Arthur Andersen, London); Bray, F R (Soloman Hare, Bristol); Brown, A E (Messrs Gibbons & Co, Chartered Accountants, Workington); Brown, K L (Pannell Kerr Forster, Leeds); Cockayne, R (David Foden Accountancy Services, Oldham); Dodimead, C D (Arthur Andersen, Reading); Duddridge, M J (Inland Revenue, Southampton); Evans, J A (Coopers & Lybrand, London); Fenwick, G (Coopers & Lybrand, Edinburgh); Freebody, T (KPMG, Liverpool); Garratt, A M (Grant Thornton, Sheffield); Griffiths, D M (Arthur Andersen, London); Hargreaves, K A T (Coopers & Lybrand, Liverpool); Hender, J W (Coopers & Lybrand, London); Hobbs, M J (KPMG, London); Hookway, R J (Amherst & Shapland, Chartered Accountants, Taunton); Howarth, M (John S Gorton & Co, Chartered Accountants, Manchester); Illingworth, D L (KPMG, London); Janjuha, R (Coopers & Lybrand, London); Lister, D J (Simpson Wood, Chartered Accountants, Huddersfield); Lockwood, R K (KPMG, Edinburgh); Madden, J M (Arthur Andersen, Birmingham); Moore, A J (Coopers & Lybrand, Southampton); Mullins, J L (Arthur Andersen, Birmingham); Paterson, J T (Simpson Froud, Chartered Accountants, Orpington); Richmond, H C (Hazlewoods, Chartered Accountants, Cheltenham); Trayhorn, S C (Inland Revenue, Staines); Zaremba, E A (KPMG, London)

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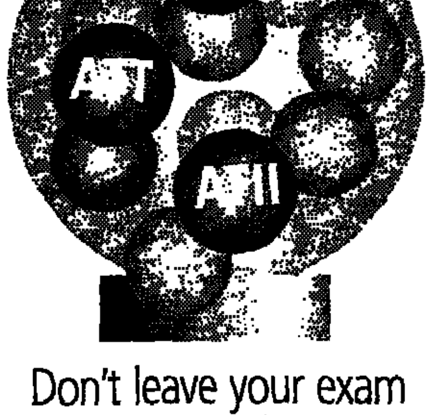

هكذا من الأصل

FOOTBALL

Stockport live up to new image

By Peter Ball

MOTTRAM HALL, the golf and country club hotel, usually home to the Cheshire Set, is also accustomed to providing a base for leading teams. Germany used it in the summer and yesterday so did Stockport County, preparing for their Coca-Cola Cup quarter-final against Southampton tonight.

It was not a one-off. Stockport have been using Mottram Hall, with its custom-laid pitch — a replica of Wembley — throughout the cold spell. "People might say 'little old Stockport', but we still try to do the same things as Premiership clubs, to stay in nice hotels and have good training facilities." Dave Jones, the manager, said.

That shows how things have changed. A few years ago, *The Times* ran a series about the special difficulties of small, impecunious clubs living in the shadows of the game's giants. Tranmere Rovers and Stockport were almost archetypal examples.

Now Tranmere are an established first division club and Stockport are bidding to join them under Jones, a bubbly Merseysider. There is a spanking new stand at Edgeley Park, once one of the Football League's most down-at-heel venues, and progress on the field has been equally striking.

"We've got a lot of stability in the club, we don't have to sell to survive," Jones said. "The ground is being modernised and we feel we've got a squad which can take us into the first division."

The club began making strides under Danny Bergara, their passionate Uruguayan manager. Under Jones, they have won a reputation as a footballing side, although he ascribes that partly to the sale of Kevin Francis to Birmingham City. "If you've got a 6ft 7in striker, then use him. But now I haven't, so I've brought in the likes of Tom Bennett and Chris Marsden, who aren't going to hoof it," Jones said. "My ideal team is ten players who are comfortable on the ball all over the pitch, but it's taken a year to get that."

He has taken advantage of the Bosman ruling to bring in his Portuguese midfield player, Luis Cavaco, whom he predicts will become a "big player". Cavaco may not be the only one.

"When we put out our 11 best players, I think all 11 could play in the Premiership — not as a team, but all of them could fit into Premiership teams and do a job," Jones said.

Blackburn Rovers and West Ham United have already discovered their quality this season. Will Southampton be next? Stockport supporters certainly believe so. "They expect you to win every game now," Jones said, "but for us to win against Southampton, every player has got to perform to the best of his ability, and then hope that Southampton don't. We aren't going out to show them we're just as good, we have to be ourselves. That's what we've done in the past rounds. If you aren't a dribbler, don't dribble; if you're a good passer, then pass. That's all we've tried to do." Live television coverage adds extra spice to the occasion.

Jones yesterday was waiting for fitness news of Brett Angell, his most expensive signing at £100,000 and the scorer of the goal that eliminated West Ham. "I think he paid back his fee with that goal," Jones said.

ALESSANDRO FUCARINI

Fabrizio Ravanelli, right, jokes with Paolo Maldini, his Italy team-mate, during training yesterday. Report, page 48

Bookmaker may be worth gamble

By Russell Kempson

MICHAEL TABOR is a wealthy bookmaker — is there a poor one? — and a lifelong West Ham United supporter. He recently offered a £30 million injection to the FA Carling Premiership club and, in return, requested a place on the board. West Ham thought about it and politely declined.

After the 2-0 defeat by Leeds United at Upton Park on Monday, which confirmed the side's slide into the bottom three of the Premiership, West Ham should perhaps reconsider Tabor's offer. A swift infusion of money may be their only way out.

West Ham, beset by injuries and bereft of ideas, were pathetic. That Leeds were not much better, yet still won comfortably, illustrates the alarming situation at Upton Park. Even Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, is feeling the heat. It was the first time this season that the normally patient supporters had called for his head.

Peter Storrie, the club's managing director, was targeted, too. He is aware of the growing unrest yet defended the board's decision to turn down Tabor's offer. "We have to investigate all our options," he said. "Michael is not the only benefactor to have expressed an interest in the club.

"There is also an American businessman who is interested in becoming involved in Premiership football and has a substantial amount of money available. It would be silly to dive in and accept the first offer that is tabled."

Redknapp spent £4 million on players during the summer but has seen little return for the investment. A tally of 18 goals from 22 matches is the worst in the Premiership and with Iain Dowie injured, Tony Cottee sold and Florin Raducioiu back at Español, his options for trying to improve that record are limited.

He is trying to rectify the problem, pursuing Pierre van Hooijdonk, of Holland and Celtic, and Dean Holdsworth, of Wimbledon, but asking prices are exorbitant. Celtic want £4.5 million for Van Hooijdonk, though they might accept it in instalments, and Wimbledon are unlikely to agree to much less than £4 million for Holdsworth.

Each player has had his problems, too. Van Hooijdonk's unseemly pay dispute with Celtic has rumbled on for months and, at the weekend, he played in a testimonial match for Peter Remie, his former team-mate at NAC Breda, in Holland.

He had not received the necessary clearance from his club or the Scottish Football Association and now faces a possible suspension.

Holdsworth's tangled private life has received much public scrutiny recently. He has started only seven matches for Wimbledon this season. Can West Ham finance a deal, anyway? Redknapp admits that the well is running dry. Perhaps it is time for them to study the formbook, take a chance and ring their bookmaker-in-waiting.

Deportivo take action against Toshack

From Tunku Varadarajan in Madrid

DEPORTIVO La Coruña announced yesterday that they had begun "full disciplinary proceedings" against John Toshack, the Spanish club's manager, after he swore at his own side's supporters in the dying moments of the first half of Deportivo's home match against Athletic Bilbao on Sunday.

Deportivo scored to lead 2-1 and Toshack leapt to his feet to salute the goal. Immediately, a wave of whistles and jeers from local fans drowned out all other sounds in the Riazor stadium. Toshack spun round, hands flapping in mock ovation. In full sight of the television cameras, he yelled: *"Aplaudid ahora, hijos de puta,"* or "Clap now, you sons of bitches."

Toshack's exhortation so incensed Augusto César Lendoiro, the club's president, that he made straight for the dressing-room after the drawn game. Yesterday, Lendoiro announced disciplinary proceedings which could see the Welshman fined or, curiously, "suspended" for a game.

The graffiti outside the stadium is no more friendly. "Toshack go home", it screeches. Much of the city detests Toshack, and it is increasingly clear that he does not care for La Coruña much either.

But he is an old Spain hand: asked if the barracking hurts, he merely says: "That's what they pay me for." Not for much longer, though, it would seem: Toshack said that he did not see himself staying on at the club beyond the end of the season.

Yet there are some Deportivo supporters who would be sorry to see Toshack go. Ricardo López Mosteiro, 42, a well-known La Coruña lawyer, believes that the criticism of the Welshman is "unfair and hysterical".

"I have been a Deportivo fan all my life," he said, "and I speak for many others. Toshack is a good man and a good manager. The press is out to get him because he doesn't believe in sweet-talking them all the time. But I think it would be a shame if he left Deportivo."

IN BRIEF

Morning glory for Robinson and Morley

GARY SMITH and Andy Thomson, the former world indoor bowls pairs champions, were beaten by Duncan Robinson and Brett Morley, the English champions, in a thrilling five-set match in this year's event in Preston. The match started on Monday at 9.50pm and finished at 1.21am yesterday (David Rhys Jones writes).

When play restarted, Kelvin Kercow, the Australian who won the Welsh Masters at Llanelli last week, came down to earth with a bump, losing 7-6, 7-5, 7-3 to Greg Harlow, of Ely, in the first round of the singles.

The biggest surprise of the day came when the World Indoor Bowls Council announced the resignation, for health reasons, of its secretary, Jenny Davidson, who was involved in negotiations with the Professional Bowls Association over the formation of the World Bowls Tour.

Makinen rallies

Motor rallying: Tommi Makinen, the world champion, took command of the Monte Carlo rally yesterday as Colin McRae, of Britain, crashed out. Brilliant driving in wet, sometimes icy, conditions enabled the Finn to move 13 seconds ahead of Carlos Sainz, the overnight leader, after four of the six timed stages on the penultimate day.

McRae, the former champion, broke the rear left suspension of his new Subaru Impreza and damaged the steering when he went off the road on the 33km first stage.

Duncan's deal

Skiing: British teams could receive £350,000 over five years under a sponsorship deal announced by Ronald (Boris) Duncan, the former British No 1 downhill racer. He will donate 10 per cent of all the hospitality revenue received by Cambridge Blues, his company, from the British Ski Federation.

Sevens down

Rugby league: Wigan will not defend their Middlesex Sevens title at Twickenham on May 17. The club has declined the invitation in order to concentrate on its Super League commitments. St Helens have also turned down an offer to take part.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	10	50	fair	varied	worn	cloud	-3	20/1
(Upper runs improved after snowfall)								
Mayrhofen	30	70	good	varied	closed	snow	0	21/1
(Conditions much improved with new snow)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	115	260	good	varied	good	sun	1	20/1
(Pistes all in excellent condition)								
Avoriaz	155	175	good	heavy	fair	fine	1	21/1
(Heavy conditions low down but plenty of snow)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	135	435	good	powder	good	fog	2	20/1
(Powdery snow on all pistes, sunny at altitude)								
SWITZERLAND								
Klosters	25	150	good	powder	good	fine	5	21/1
(Fresh snow and good skiing, too mild for low runs)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain L - lower slopes; U - upper

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CHANGING TIMES

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta 106 Charlotte 97; New York 95 Washington 79; Milwaukee 114 Philadelphia 104; Minnesota 96 San Antonio 93; LA Lakers 109 Dallas 99; Denver 132 New Jersey 123; Phoenix 83 Detroit 86; Utah 94 Cleveland 74; Seattle 112 Vancouver 96

EUROPEAN CUP: Second leg: Saratov (Russ) 62 (Einikis 21, 2 Pashutin 17) London 68 (34) (Hooks 21, Austin 14, Deppisch 14) (Saratov win 143-138 on agg)

BOWLS

PRESTON: Saga world indoor championships: Singles: First round: G Harlow (Eng) bt K Kerkow (Aus) 7-6, 7-5, 7-3; R Brassey (NZ) bt I Taylor (Aus) 7-5, 7-3, 7-2. Pairs: First round: A Welch (Guer) and D Le Marquand (Jer) bt J Rabun (Isr) and N Burkett (SA) 5-7, 7-5, 7-6, 7-3; S Rees (Wales) and J Price (Wales) bt T Tong (HK) and S Worok (Can) 2-7, 7-4, 7-0, 7-2; M King (Eng) and A Allcock (Eng) bt K Schischka (NZ) and R Brassey (NZ) 4-7, 7-0, 2-7, 7-1, 7-3; I Taylor (Aus) and S Gleeson (Aus) bt W Richards (Eng) and M McMahon (Aus) 7-5, 6-7, 7-5, 7-4; D Morley (Eng) and D Robinson (Eng) bt G Smith (Eng) and A Thomson (Eng) 7-6, 2-7, 7-6, 6-7, 7-6; R Corsie (Scot) and G Robertson (Scot) bt G Jones (Wales) and G Williams (Wales) 7-6, 7-2, 7-5

CRICKET

SUPERSPORT SERIES: East London (final day of four): Border 331 and 201-4 dec; Boland 277 and 218-7 (K C Jackson 90 not out, L D Ferreira 53). Match drawn

FOOTBALL

Monday's late results

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: West Ham United 0 Leeds United 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	24	13	7	4	41	20	46
Man Utd	23	12	8	3	45	26	44
Arsenal	23	12	7	4	42	22	43
Newcastle	23	11	6	6	42	26	39
Wimbledon	21	11	5	5	34	25	38
Chelsea	23	10	8	5	38	32	38
A Villa	23	10	6	7	31	22	36
Sheff Wed	22	7	10	5	25	27	31
Everton	23	7	7	9	31	34	28
Tottenham	22	8	4	10	24	27	28
Leeds	23	8	4	11	21	27	28
Sunderland	23	7	7	9	22	25	28
Leicester	22	7	5	10	22	30	26
Blackburn	22	5	9	8	23	22	24
Derby	22	5	9	8	22	32	24
Coventry	23	5	8	10	22	35	23
Nottm F	23	5	8	10	23	37	23
West Ham	22	5	7	10	19	25	22
Southampton	22	5	5	12	31	38	20
*Middlesbro	23	5	6	12	29	42	18

*Middlesbrough deducted three points

FA UMBRO TROPHY: First round replay: Stevenage 6 Bath 1.

UNIBOND LEAGUE CUP: Third round: Emley 1 Spennymoor 0

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Wolverhampton 2 Coventry 1.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Luton 2 Cardiff 3, Queens Park Rangers 2 Norwich 1; Swindon 2 Arsenal 6; Tottenham 2 Brighton 2.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Español 1 Sevilla 0

SCHOOLS MATCHES: ESFA Snickers Under-19 Trophy: Lord William, Oxfordshire 2 Fortismere, Middlesex 1; Bacon, Inner London 5 Meopham, Kent 0. Other matches: King's Canterbury 2, Brentwood 1; Royal Hospital 3 Finborough 1

FREESTYLE SKIING

WHISTLER, British Columbia: World Cup: Men: Aerials: 1, N Fontaine (Can) 229.83pts; 2, L Langlois (Can) 213.72; 3, M Chopraciu (US) 211.74; 4, J-D Cimonet (Fr) 209.36; 5, J Pack (US) 209.09; 6, C Rijavec (Austria) 207.61. Leading World Cup positions: Aerials: 1, S Foucras (Fr) 384pts; 2, Langlois 364; 3, Rijavec 360; 4, Fontaine 340; 5, Cimonet 316; 6, A Capicik (Can) 308. Overall: 1, F Becker (Fr) 111.66; 2, D Downs (Can) 101.66; 3, H Baumgartner (Switz) 98.66; 4, J Ronnback (Swe) 98.66; 5, Foucras 96.00; 6, J-L Brassard (Can) 94.66. Women: Aerials: 1, C Olivier (Can) 169.47pts; 2, V Brenner (Can) 168.77; 3, H S Lid (Nor) 168.38; 4, K Kuster (Switz) 165.04; 5, N Stone (US) 164.33; 6, J Cooper (Aus) 161.11. Leading World Cup positions: Aerials: 1, Brenner 396pts; 2, Olivier 372; 3, M Rohrbach (Switz) 344; 4, Cooper 340; 5, Lid 332; 6, Kuster 324. Overall: 1, E Batalova (Russ) 100.00; 2, Brenner 99.00; 3, T Mittermayer (Ger) 98.66; 4, A Johansson (Swe) 96.00; 5, O Kushenko (Russ) 96.00; 6, C Gilg (Fr) 93.33

GOLF

SONY WORLD RANKINGS (US unless stated): 1, G Norman (Aus) 12.14pts ave; 2, T Lehman 9.84; 3, C Montgomerie (Scot) 9.07; 4, E Els (SA) 8.23; 5, N Faldo (Eng) 7.71

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S WELSH LEAGUE: Colwyn Bay 1 Newtown 2; Haverfordwest 7 Penarth 2; Cardiff Ath 3 Pontypridd 1; UWIC 2 Swansea 3. Standings: 1 Swansea 16, 2 Newtown 14, 3 Cardiff Ath 9

SCHOOLS MATCH: Haileybury 5 Forest 1

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): St Louis 6 New York Islanders 4; Washington 3 Boston 2; Buffalo 2 Chicago 1; Hartford 3 Toronto 1; Montreal 4 Detroit 1; Colorado 4 Florida 2; Vancouver 6 San Jose 1

ICE SKATING

PARIS: European championships: Women (qualifiers for final): Group A: 1, E Liashenko (Ukr) 1.0 factored placements; 2, E-M Fritz (Ger) 2.0; 3, Y Vorobieva (Azer) 3.0; 4, J Lautova (Austria) 4.0; 5, L Hubert (Fr) 5.0; 6, S Bonaly (Fr) 6.0; 7, A Rechnio (Pol) 7.0; 8, Z Szwed (Pol) 8.0; 9, A Drei (Fin) 9.0; 10, D Poth (Hun) 10.0; 11, M Kopac (Slovenia) 11.0; 12, Z Paurova (Slovakia) 12.0; 13, K Bramfeldt (Swe) 13.0; 14, I Jakupcevic (Cro) 14.0; 15, K Hanevold (Nor) 15.0. Group B: 1, M Butyrskaya (Russ) 1.0; 2, I Slutskaya (Russ) 2.0; 3, V Guzmeroli (Fr) 3.0; 4, O Markova (Russ) 4.0; 5, V Dvrt (Ger) 5.0; 6, K Czako (Hun) 6.0; 7, L Kulovana (Cz) 7.0; 8, Y Lavrenchuk (Ukr) 8.0; 9, S-M Wiksten (Fin) 9.0; 10, M Andrade (Sp) 10.0; 11, A Dimova (Bul) 11.0; 12, T-S Bombardieri (It) 12.0; 13, J Arrowsmith (GB) 13.0; 14, A Fivian (Switz) 14.0; 15, J Golovatenko (Est) 15.0; 16, A Efimova (Azer) 16.0; 17, S Duyn (Holl) 17.0; 18, N Bedo (Rom) 18.0; 19, M Tadevosyan (Arm) 19.0. Ice dance (after compulsory dances): 1, O Gritschuk and Y Platov (Russ) 0.4; 2, A Krylova and O Ovsiannikov (Russ) 0.8; 3, M Anissina and G Peizerat (Fr) 1.2; 4, S Moniotte and P Lavanchy (Fr) 1.6; 5, I Lobacheva and I Averbukh (Russ) 2.0; 6, I Romanova and I Yaroshenko (Ukr) 2.4; 7, B Fusar-Poli and M Margaglio (It) 2.8; equal 8, M Drobiazko and P Vanagas (Lith) and K Mrazova and M Simecek (Cz) 3.4; 10, S Nowak and S Kolasinski (Pol) 4.0; equal 13, M Humphreys and P Askew (GB) 5.4

MOTOR RALLYING

MONACO: Monte Carlo Rally: Leading positions (after nine stages): 1, T Makinen and S Harjanne (Fin, Mitsubishi Lancer EV4) 2hrs 28min 19sec; 2, C Sainz and L Moya (Sp, Ford Escort WRC) 2:28:23; 3, P Liatti and F Pons (It, Subaru Impreza WRC) 2:29:34; 4, A Schwarz and D Giraudet (Ger and Fr, Ford Escort WRC) 2:31:12; 5, D Auriol and J-M Andrie (Fr, Ford Escort RS Cosworth) 2:32:27; 6, D Dieping and D Hawranke (Ger, Ford Escort RS Cosworth) 2:35:12.

NETBALL

ENGLISH COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Warwickshire 33 Essex Metropolitan 61; Middlesex 54 Hertfordshire 47; Gloucestershire 45 Surrey 43; Bedfordshire 58 Nottinghamshire 25

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Calls cost: BT (0891) 45p per min cheap rate, 50p per min at all other times. Mercury (0839) 49p per min at all times

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCH: Durham 39 Bradford GS 13.

SNOOKER

BLACKPOOL: Embassy world championship: Seventh qualifying round (England unless stated): J Weston bt S Murphy (Ire) 10-4; T Murphy (N Ire) bt D Walker 10-3; M Davis bt D Clarke 10-0; J Birch bt D Leary 10-5; B Morgan bt S Bingham 10-5; N Pearce bt M Flowerdew 10-5; P Davison bt M Johnston-Allen 10-5; J Michie bt P Hunter 10-7; N Dyson bt M Hallett 10-5.

SQUASH

SUPER LEAGUE: Dunraven Maesteg 2 ICL Lionhearts 1 (Maesteg names first): P Gregory lost to D Harris 3-9, 4-9, 6-9; D Evans bt M Chaloner 3-9, 9-5, 9-6, 5-9, 9-6; C van der Walt bt B Davis 2-9, 9-7, 9-8, 9-7). Ellis Lingfield 2 Surbiton 1 (Lingfield names first): P Nicol bt S Parke 9-2, 6-9, 9-2, 9-4; J Nicolle lost to T Hands 10-8, 9-5, 3-9, 7-9, 1-9; T Garner bt D Meddings 9-6, 8-10, 9-7, 3-9, 9-7).

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

Henri Svarc, aged 68, was a member of the France team that won the 1996 Olympiad. He has played in twelve European championships, winning five of them — a remarkable record. You can see him in action with Marc Bompis in the Macallan International Pairs which starts today.

In this match from the round robin, a Swedish player found a good play against Svarc and Multon.

Dealer West *Love all* *IMPs*

North:
♠ Q J 4
♥ 5
♦ 8 6 4
♣ A Q 7 4 3 2

West:
♠ A 9 8 7 2
♥ A 10 4 3
♦ A 7 2
♣ 9

East:
♠ 6 3
♥ J 9 8 7
♦ J 10 5
♣ J 10 8 5

South:
♠ K 10 5
♥ K Q 6 2
♦ K Q 9 3
♣ K 6

Contract: 3 NT by South. Lead: three of hearts

Svarc opened One Spade on the West hand. North overcalled Two Clubs and South (Magnus Eriksson) bid 3 NT.

Eriksson won the heart lead in hand and played a spade to the queen. It seemed almost certain from the bidding that West would have the three aces; if the clubs divided South could set up his ninth trick by playing a spade or diamond. But what if the clubs didn't divide?

Eriksson realised that it would not cost to run the eight of diamonds — if it lost to the jack or ten in the West hand, West could not do any harm — declarer could just set up his ninth trick in either spades or diamonds, relying on the club break. But playing the diamonds like that was a spectacular success when East turned up with the jack and ten — declarer was able to set up three tricks in the suit, and so had nine tricks even though the clubs didn't break.

☐ Several world champions are among the 16 pairs who will be playing in the Macallan International Pairs 1997 that starts today (until Friday) at The White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1. You can watch at the tables or in the Viewgraph theatre. Information: 0181-878 5844.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SHAKESPEARIANS

FLUTE
a. A clown
b. A musician
c. A bellows-mender

SCROOP
a. A conspirator
b. A foolish lover
c. A wife of Windsor

BASSET
a. A clown's dog
b. A sectary
c. A treacherous servant

LOVELL
a. A villain
b. A courtier
c. An ambassador

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Dutch treat

Dutch grandmasters dominate after the first two rounds of their home ground Wijk aan Zee tournament in Holland. Jeroen Piket leads, having beaten both Salov and Nikolic, while Jan Timman, the Dutch champion, is half a point behind. Timman's win came after his opponent Glek employed a new but somewhat suspect version of the King's Indian Defence. Timman exchanged queens in the opening and thereafter subjected Glek to intense pressure in the simplified position. Timman won on move 58 after a smooth technical performance. Nigel Short's fortunes recovered somewhat after his first round loss when he beat Loek van Wely in the second round.

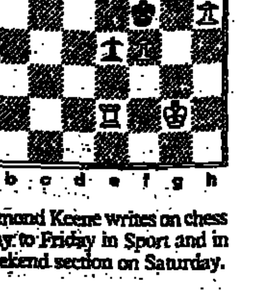
White: J Timman
Black: I Glek
Wijk aan Zee, January 1997

King's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	g6
3	Nc3	Bg7
4	e4	d6
5	Nf3	0-0
6	Be2	e5
7	0-0	a5
8	dxe5	dxe5
9	Qxd8	Rxd8
10	Nd5	Na6
11	Bg5	Nxd5
12	cxd5	f6
13	Be3	Bd7
14	Rac1	Rdc8
15	Nd2	a4
16	Nb1	Bf8
17	Rfd1	Bd6
18	Nc3	b6
19	Bb5	Bxb5
20	Nxb5	Nc5
21	Rc4	Ra5
22	Nc3	Rca8
23	g3	Kf7
24	Kg2	Ke7
25	Rd2	h5
26	Bxc5	Bxc5
27	b4	axb3
28	axb3	Bd6
29	b4	b5
30	Rc6	Bxb4
31	Rb2	Bd6
32	Nxb5	Rxb5
33	Rxb5	Ra4
34	Kf3	Ra3+
35	Ke2	Ra2+
36	Ke3	Ra3+
37	Kd2	Ra4
38	Kd3	f5
39	f3	Ra3+
40	Rc3	Ra2
41	Rc2	Ra3+
42	Ke2	Ra4
43	Ke3	Ra3+
44	Kf2	Kf6
45	h4	Ra4
46	Re2	Ra3
47	Kg2	Kg7
48	Rb8	Kf7
49	exf5	gxf5
50	Rh8	e4
51	f4	Kg6
52	Rg8+	Kf6
53	Rg5	Rd3
54	Rxh5	Rxd5
55	g4	Rc5
56	Rxf5+	Rxf5
57	gxf5	Kxf5
58	h5	Bf8

Black resigns

Diagram of final position

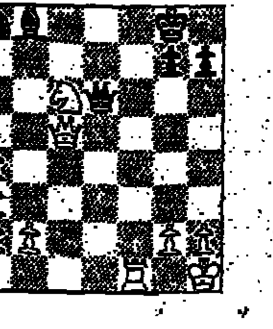


☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Libretto — Link, Argentina 1969. With his tremendous superiority in terms of active pieces, White is doing very well. This is borne out by the fact that he can now finish the game in attractive fashion in two different ways. Can you spot them?

Solution on page 46



هكذا من الأصل

RACING: ABDULLA HOPE OUT TO 16-1 FOR CHAMPION HURDLE

Festival options kept open for Sanmartino

By Julian Muscat

SANMARTINO *kept his* Cheltenham Festival aspirations intact with a workmanlike victory in the Croxton Park Novices' Hurdle at Leicester yesterday. The colt jumped competently in the hands of Adrian Maguire, although whether this performance merits a tilt at the Champion Hurdle *remains* open to question.

At least Sanmartino, a smart stayer on the Flat, fared better than Moonax, the dual St Leger winner, who was comfortably outpaced in the closing stages. Moonax finished third over the minimum two miles and his own Cheltenham prospects now rest over longer trips. The six-year-old ran in snatches for Richard Dunwoody; he remains an entire and may be losing his concentration.

By contrast, all avenues remain open to Sanmartino, who quickened well after the final flight to fend off a promising hurdles debut from High In The Clouds. David Nicholson's *representative* travelled strongly throughout and seemed poised for a bloodless victory three flights from home. But High In The Clouds, a useful Flat performer in Ireland, forced Sanmartino *to dig in* before prevailing by 1½ lengths.

While William Hill maintained its Champion Hurdle quote of 10-1, both Coral and Ladbrokes *extended* Sanmartino's Champion Hurdle *price to 12-1 and 16-1* respectively. Nevertheless, it would be unwise to judge Sanmartino solely on this evidence. The horse's best Flat *form was gained on a fast* surface; the going at Leicester, officially good to soft, was rated sticky by the jockeys.

Furthermore, Nicholson's *string has been detained more* than most by the cold spell. Sanmartino will almost certainly improve — both for the outing and from the experience he gained on this, his second start over hurdles. "He will *definitely have another* outing before Cheltenham," Nicholson's assistant, Alan King, said. "He never does a lot when he hits the front and *the great thing about him is* that he is loving it."

Tim Forster, the stalwart of jumps racing who trains the runner-up, can rarely have *split runners owned by* Khaled Abdulla and Sheikh *Mohammed,* whose silks Moonax carries. "High In The Clouds is a nice horse but when I saw this field I was horrified," he said. He also *endorsed the quality of the* contest, labelling it as good a novice hurdle as he has seen for some time. "I thought mine would run well, but that was above expectations," he said.

Interest in Sanmartino as a *Champion Hurdle candidate* is heightened by the excellent record of high-class Flat recruits at Cheltenham. Kribensis, Royal Gait and Alder*brook have claimed the prize* in the last seven renewals, but Sanmartino — like Moonax, trained on the Flat by Barry Hills — must progress consid*erably to join that trio. The* time to judge him will be on his next start. Meanwhile, Collier Bay remains a best-priced 7-2 to follow up last *year's victory in* hurdling's Blue Riband.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: EASTERN RIVER
(3.40 Lingfield Park)
Next best: Bassenhally
(2.40 Lingfield Park)

EDWARD WHITAKER

Sanmartino gaining a second success over hurdles at Leicester yesterday

SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER

12.55 September Breeze. 1.25 Furietto. 2.00 Ansuro Again. 2.30 Brambles Way. 3.00 Troodos. 3.30 Val De Rama. 4.00 Spritzer.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
2.30 BRAMBLES WAY.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS
(7.30AM INSPECTION)

12.55 SKI-ING NATIONAL HUNT MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £1,953: 2m 1f) (12 runners)

1 -000 ALAN'S PRIDE 8 W McKeown 6-11-0 G Cahill 77
2 0-33 ARDRINA 51 (BF) F Murphy 6-11-0 A Maguire –
3 -000 COQUET GOLD 8 F Walton 6-11-0 T Reed 71
4 -604 DARK PHOENIX 47 (B) O Brennan 7-11-0 M Brennan 96
5 /0 HENBRIG 34 G Oldroyd 7-11-0 R Guest –
6 560 LIPPY LOUISE 53 Mrs M Reveley 5-11-0 P Niven –
7 0-0 PARRY 50 S Bell 5-11-0 K Johnson –
8 1/F PARSON'S LODGE 71 (G) L Lungo 9-11-0 R Supple –
9 RED-STOAT Mrs J Storey 8-11-0 B Storey –
10 00 SANTA BARBARA 40 C Grant 6-11-0 R Garritty –
11 0-F3 SEPTEMBER BREEZE 47 K Morgan 6-11-0 A S Smith [illegible]
12 0 WHATYERONABOUT 50 G Moore 5-11-0 N Bentley –

9-4 September Breeze, 7-2 Dark Phoenix, 5-1 Ardrina, 7-1 Parson's Lodge, 8-1 Lippy Louise, Alan's Pride, 10-1 others.

1.25 STONEGRAVE AGGREGATES SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,049: 2m 1f) (16)

1 -2F2 FURIETTO 35 (BF,F) M Hammond 7-12-0 R Garritty 98
2 41F3 MINSTER'S MADAM 44 (V,D,S) J Neville 6-11-8 R Johnson 92
3 U00- DUGORT STRAND 333 O Brennan 6-10-10 M Brennan 87
4 -303 OVER STATED 42 P Cheesbrough 7-10-9 G F Ryan (5) 91
5 6-30 *AUNTIE ALICE 46 J Fitzgerald 7-10-9* P Carberry 87
6 5842 AIDE MEMOIRE 37 (D,S) R Johnson 8-10-9 K Johnson 87
7 .44P- MICK THE YANK 377 H Oliver 7-10-6 Mr H J Oliver (7) 83
8 3004 APPEARANCE MONEY 4 F Murphy 6-10-5 A Maguire 87
9 -04P SHARMOOR 34 Miss L Siddall 5-10-5 R Supple 94
10 *-654 IN A MOMENT 35 (S) C Grant 6-10-3* A Dobbin 93
11 P0-1. NORD LYS 12F (D,F) B Llewellyn 6-10-2 Miss E J Jones (7) 93
12 3F00 FOLLOW DE CALL 42 D McCain 7-10-1 D Walsh 84
13 -460 DOUBLING DICE 12 R Allan 6-10-1 B Storey [illegible]
14 5005 COOL STEEL 35 (B) Mrs J Brown 5-10-0 A S Smith 98
15 0/3- *NOSMO KING 487 Mrs M Kendall 6-10-0* Mrs M Kendall –
16 4-0P STORMING LORNA 71 W McKeown 7-10-0 G Cahill 80

11-2 Aide Memoire, 6-1 Minster's Madam, 7-1 Over Stated, 8-1 Furietto, Nord Lys, 10-1 Appearance Money, 12-1 others.

2.00 WINTER SPORTS MAIDEN CHASE (£3,069: 3m 3f) (16)

1 052- ANSURO AGAIN 340 Mrs M Reveley 8-11-5 P Niven –
2 -052 AYLESBURY LAD 43 (B) D Lamb 8-11-5 J Burke [illegible]
3 4UFP BROOMHILL DUKER 35 J Howard Johnson 7-11-5 P Carberry 83
4 0040 CLONROCHE LUCKY 8 J Wade 7-11-5 A S Smith –
5 5F66 *COOL WEATHER 1 (B) P Cheesbrough 9-11-5* DOUBTFUL 87
6 /4U CORPORAL KIRKWOOD 36 (BF) M Todhunter 7-11-5 R Guest 80
7 2F DRY HILL LAD 8 J Norton 6-11-5 W Fry –
8 6 FERN LEADER 12 (G,S) Mrs A Swinbank 7-11-5 J Supple –
9 1-F4 MONKSAAN 51 (G) M Hammond 8-11-5 Mr C Bonner (3) –
10 00-5 *NOOSA SOUND 42 L Lungo 7-11-5* R Supple 94
11 440F QUIXALL CROSSETT 32 E Caine 12-11-5 Tristan Davidson (7) 75
12 U2FF ROYAL HAND 34 R Armson 7-11-5 Mr R Armson –
13 6-50 MILLIES IMAGE 12 F Murtagh 6-11-0 A Dobbin –
14 0 MILWAUKEE 34 O Brennan 8-11-0 M Brennan –
15 5- NIKKIS PET 266 J Neville 10-11-0 R Johnson 80
16 /P-4 TACTIX 49 Miss M Milligan 7-11-0 B Storey 82

7-2 Aylesbury Lad, 9-2 Ansuro Again, 5-1 Cool Weather, 7-1 Tactix, 8-1 Noosa Sound, 10-1 Monksaan, 12-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 2.10 Supergold. 2.40 Parliamentarian, Sophie May. *3.10 Hawanafa.* Sedgefield: *4.00* Flaming Hope, Gautby Henpecked. Wolverhampton: 1.50 Balinsky, Ho Mei Surprise, Palacegate Chief. 3.50 Shakyr.

2.30 STANLEY RACING GOLDEN NUMBERS SERIES NOVICES HURDLE (£2,478. 2m 1f) (16)

1 711 BRAMBLES WAY 50F (B,CD,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-12-4 C McCormack (7) [illegible]
2 00/ COOL GAME 722 Mrs M Reveley 7-11-4 G Cahill –
3 00/ NASAYER 704 N Mason 7-11-4 S Haworth (7) –
4 NEW CENTURY 153F D Nicholls 5-11-4 R Guest –
5 *0/0 OBVIOUS RISK 51 E Caine 6-11-4* Tristan Davidson (7) –
6 0/ RAMBLING LANE 1012 R Allan 6-11-4 S Melrose (7) –
7 0PP- RYE RUM 275 J Aynsley 6-11-4 B Storey –
8 02 SHARED RISK 76 J Norton 5-11-4 W Fry 82
9 5156 SILVER MINX 34 (G) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-4 P Niven –
10 *5/0 THE MICKLETONIAN 48 J Charlton 6-11-4* K Johnson –
11 00-0 TSANGA 8 G Moore 5-11-4 N Bentley –
12 00-P WHITEGATES WILLIE 43 J Howard Johnson 5-11-4 P Carberry –
13 0 SKIP TO SOMERFIELD 1 B Rothwell 5-10-13 A S Smith –
14 HIGH HOPE HENRY 109F M Hammond 4-10-6 R Garritty –
15 *20 HONEYSCHOICE 1 (BF) M Hammond 4-10-6 DOUBTFUL* 86
16 3 TAGATAY 32 M Camacho 4-10-6 E Callaghan (3) 81

7-4 Brambles Way, 4-1 Shared Risk, 5-1 New Century, 8-1 Silver Minx, 10-1 High Hope Henry, 12-1 others.

3.00 ACROPOLA HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,635: 3m 3f 110yd) (16)

1 12F1 TROODOS 43 (CD,F,G) Mrs A Swinbank 11-12-0 B Grattan (7) 93
2 300- *MOONSHINE DANCER 329 (F,G,S) D Barker 7-12-0* R Guest 89
3 23-3 TILTY 32 (V) A Streeter 7-11-11 T Eley 91
4 2331 PHARARE 34 (F,S) R Woodhouse 7-11-11 A S Smith 85
5 4225 D'ARBLAY STREET 12 (CD,G,S) W Kemp 8-10-13 S McDougall 93
6 *0-31 HUDSON BAY TRADER 42 (G,S) P Beaumont 10-10-12* Miss P Robson 92
7 -623 QUIET MISTRESS 34 (B,S) W Bethell 7-10-9 A Maguire 95
8 2001 GUNMAKER 6 (F,G,S) B Llewellyn 8-10-6 (6ex) D Walsh 96
9 13-6 HIGH PENHOWE 35 (C,F) J Quinn 9-10-3 Mr C Bonner (3) 94
10 5-P0 SOLOMAN SPRINGS 48 (F) Mrs V Ward 7-10-1 B Storey –
11 F05- GREENFIELD MANOR 309 J Sisterson 10-10-0 S Taylor (5) –
12 2231 DRAGONMIST 56 (S) D Burchell 7-10-0 D J Burchell 94
13 3-50 MARDOOD 42 (G,S) S Clark 12-10-0 R Supple 90
14 06-6 DENTICULATA 34 (C,F,G) P Spottiswood 9-10-0 D Parker [illegible]
15 -624 SNOWY LANE 34 (B,G,S) J Neville 9-10-0 R Johnson 92
16 4333 LITTLE REDWING 26 M Hammond 5-10-0 A Dobbin 90

4-1 Troodos, 9-2 Pharare, 6-1 Tilty, 7-1 D'Arblay Street, 8-1 Hudson Bay Trader, Quiet Mistress, 10-1 Gunmaker, 12-1 others.

3.30 CURLING HANDICAP CHASE (£2,735: 2m 110yd) (10)

1 2413 FULL O'PRAISE 49 (CD,BF,F,G) P Calver 10-11-12 T Reed [illegible]
2 *5/2 COVER POINT 37 (F,G) J Fitzgerald 6-11-3* R Garritty 91
3 12/ PARIAH 678 (D,S) M Todhunter 8-11-2 A Dobbin –
4 3413 REVE DE VALSE 43 (D,BF,F,G,S) R Johnson 10-11-2 K Johnson 93
5 2336 VAL DE RAMA 1 (C,F,G) Denys Smith 8-11-0 P Niven 98
6 *83P2 PORT IN A STORM 34 (D,BF,S) M Hammond 8-10-13* Mr C Bonner (3) 91
7 1232 MARBLE MAN 1 (F) M Hammond 7-10-10 DOUBTFUL 90
8 -043 POSITIVE ACTION 34 (B,C,D,F,G,S) M Barnes 11-10-3 S Taylor (5) 87
9 4621 CARDENDEN 36 (D,F,G) *J Barclay 9-10-0* A Maguire 86
10 001/ MOSS PAGEANT 827P (G) F Walton 7-10-0 B Storey –

3-1 Reve De Valse, 7-2 Cover Point, 4-1 Val De Rama, 6-1 Full O'Praise, 7-1 Port In A Storm, 8-1 Marble Man, Cardenden, 12-1 others.

4.00 SKI-ING NATIONAL HUNT MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £1,935: 2m 1f) (11)

1 212U ANABRANCH 8 (G) J Jefferson 6-11-12 M Newton (7) [illegible]
2 6-10 *FLAMING HOPE 60 (V,CD,BF,F) Mrs N Hope 7-11-6* J Burke 83
3 -3P1 HUTCEL LOCH 12 (F) R Woodhouse 6-11-6 A S Smith 92
4 -40P CARLY-J 8 F Jackson 6-11-0 Mr N Kent 88
5 26 COUNTRY ORCHID 40 (BF) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-0 P Niven –
6 R00 JED ABBEY 12 R Shiels 5-11-0 D Bentley –
7 043 *SALEM BEACH 26 M Todhunter 5-11-0* A Dobbin –
8 0404 SPRITZER 46 J Fitzgerald 5-11-0 P Carberry 90
9 5 ANALOGICAL 35 D McCain 4-10-2 D Walsh –
10 00 BANK ON INLAND 37 J Turner 4-10-2 W Fry –
11 00 GAUTBY HENPECKED 8 (B) G Moore 4-10-2 N Bentley 59

2-1 Anabranch, 3-1 Spritzer, 4-1 Hutcel Loch, 8-1 Flaming Hope, Country Orchid, 10-1 Carly-J, 12-1 others.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

1.50 Siouxrouge. 2.20 Little Ibnr. 2.50 Gi La High. 3.20 Millroy. 3.50 Petoskin. 4.20 Forest Boy.

GOING: STANDARD *DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE* SIS

1.50 HADDOCK MAIDEN STAKES (£3,420: 6f) (10 runners)

1 52 AFAAN 9 *R Harris* 4-9-10 T G McLaughlin 3
2 336- BEAU BRUNO 166 M Bell 4-9-10 G Faulkner (5) 9
3 500- HO MEI SURPRISE 170 (V) B Preece 5-9-10 V Slattery 2
4 /00- PALACEGATE CHIEF 214 (B) N Littmoden 4-9-10 A Daly (5) 8
5 58-0 BALINSKY 12 (B) J Berry 4-9-5 P Roberts (5) 4
6 350- CINDY KATE 226 W Muir 4-9-5 C Rutter 7
7 0F-6 OSCILIGHTS GIFT 12 M Campion 5-9-5 N Adams 5
8 3-23 SIOUXROUGE 14 (BF) P Haslam 3-8-8 J Weaver 6
9 0- JULIA'S RELATIVE 96 R Guest 3-8-3 *J Quinn* 10
10 0 ROSE BURTON 14 T Barron 3-8-3 L Charnock 1

5-2 Siouxrouge, *7-2 Beau Bruno,* 4-1 Cindy Kate, 9-2 Afaan, 7-1 Balinsky, 8-1 Oscilights Gift, 10-1 others.

2.20 MACKEREL CLAIMING STAKES (£2,580: 7f) (8)

1 0-11 ANONYM 11 (B,C,D,F,G) D Nicholls 5-9-5 J Bramhill (7) 3
2 14-1 JIBEREEN 9 (D,G,S) P Howling 5-9-5 S Whitworth 1
3 /0 HIGH LOW 7 (F,G) W Jarvis 3-9-1 V Slattery 2
4 050- JIGSAW BOY 25 (CD,F,G,S) P Murphy 8-8-7 S Drowne 5
5 5134 *LITTLE IBNR 2 (CD,F,G) P Evans 6-8-7* Anthony Bond (7) 7
6 5-40 SHONTAINE 4 (D,F,G) M Johnston 4-8-5 J Fanning 6
7 00-0 DHES-C 18 (G,G) R Hollinshead 4-8-4 F Lynch (3) 4
8 000- BOGART 34 (D,G) C Fairhurst 6-8-3 *R Lappin* 8

6-4 Anonym, 5-2 Jibereen, 4-1 Little Ibnr, 9-1 Jigsaw Boy, 10-1 Bogart, Shontaine, 12-1 others.

2.50 COD HANDICAP (£3,436: 5f) (13)

1 12-3 RAMSEY HOPE 14 (V,CD,F,G) C Fairhurst 4-10-0 N Kennedy 8
2 12-4 CHADWELL HALL 9 (B,CD,F,G,S) S Bowring 6-9-13 S D Williams 5
3 14-2 CHEMCAST 14 (B,D,F,G) J Eyre 4-9-10 D Pears (3) 13
4 3-02 KAFIER STAR 9 (V,CD,G) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-5 C Teague (3) 9
5 10- BOLD FRONTIER 33 (B,CD,G) K Ivory 5-9-4 C Scally 10
6 24-6 *PREMILA BARN 18 (B,CD,BF,G,S) D Nicholls 7-9-3* Alex Greaves 4
7 003- *SQUIRE CORRIE 22 (D,F,G) D Chapman 5-9-0* A Culhane 2
8 300- LUCKY REVENGE 100 (F) D Nicholls 4-8-11 Iona Wands (7) 1
9 -304 BOFFY 11 (CD,G) B Smyth 4-8-7 R Perham 11
10 2-35 GI LA HIGH 18 (CD,G) W Meade 4-8-5 N Adams 12
11 3-11 SOTONIAN 11 (CD,G) P Felgate 4-8-2 J Bramhill (7) 7
12 000- REDWHOLME 25 (B,CD,G) J Hetherton 6-8-0 L Charnock 6
13 6-43 BELINDA BLUE 11 R Fahey 5-7-10 F Norton 3

3-1 Sotonian, 5-1 Kafier Star, 6-1 Chadwell Hall, 7-1 Chemcast, 8-1 Ramsey Hope, Gi La High, 10-1 Squire Corrie, 12-1 others.

3.20 TROUT HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £4,941: 1m 100yd) (8)

1 02-1 FOOT BATTALION 7 (C,G) R Hollinshead 9-6 (5ex) F Lynch (3) 3
2 32-1 MILLROY 11 (V,C,G) P Kelleway 9-7 M Wigham 4
3 31-4 NOMORE MR NICEGUY 7 (C,BF,G) E Alston 9-4 A Culhane 2
4 -42-2 SELBERRY 14 (BF) P Haslam 8-11 S Drowne 8
5 542- PLAN FOR PROFIT 117 (F) M Johnston 8-11 J Weaver 1
6 144- TIME CAN TELL 78 (D,G) C Murray 8-4 Nicola Howarth 7
7 4-33 ENCHANTING EVE 7 (C,G) C Allen 8-4 J Bramhill (7) 6
8 14-3 HELLO DOLLY 15 (CD,G) K Burke 8-3 D R McCabe 5

2-1 Millroy, 5-2 Foot Battalion, 5-1 Enchanting Eve, 6-1 Selberry, 7-1 Nomore Mr Niceguy, 8-1 Plan For Profit.

3.50 BREAM SELLING STAKES (£2,580: 1m 6f 166yd) (10)

1 22-1 EL NIDO 12 (F,G,S) D Chapman 9-9-8 L Charnock 5
2 011- PETOSKIN 39 (CD,F,G,S) J Pearce 5-9-8 M Wigham 9
3 6/0- AWESTRUCK 6J (B,C,F,G,S) B Preece 7-9-3 J Weaver 1
4 050/ EDWARD SEYMOUR 240J W Jenks 10-9-3 V Slattery 2
5 0-45 *PERSIAN BUD 11 (G) J Bosley 9-9-3* C Rutter 10
6 36-3 SHAKYR 12 (G) (B,C,G) R Hollinshead 6-9-3 F Lynch (3) 4
7 06-4 SHUTTLECOCK 12 (C,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 6-9-3 C Teague (3) 3
8 06 TANGO MAN 7 R Price 5-9-3 Anthony Bond (7) 8
9 85-6 WADADA 7 (F) D Burchell 6-9-3 S Drowne 7
10 00-5 *THORNTOUN ESTATE 7 (B,B) M Todhunter 4-8-11* D McKeown 6

2-1 Petoskin, 3-1 El Nido, 9-2 Persian Bud, 7-1 Shakyr, 8-1 Wadada, Shuttlecock, 10-1 others

4.20 SALMON HANDICAP (£3,436: 1m 1f 79yd) (10)

1 60-1 FOREST BOY 18 (CD,G,S) J Bosley 4-10-0 C Rutter 6
2 *02-3 BERNARD SEVEN 19 (B,CD,F,G) M Dods 5-9-11* A Clark 8
3 45-1 ONEFORTHEDITCH 18 (CD,G) J Fanshawe 4-9-8 N Varley (3) 4
4 230- MARADATA 23 (F,G) R Hollinshead 5-9-7 F Lynch (3) 9
5 20-3 GOLDEN TOUCH 14 (C,D,F,G) D Cosgrove 5-9-4 A Daly (5) 5
6 1-25 THREE WEEKS 11 (C,BF,G) W Muir 4-8-3 J Weaver 1
7 06-0 *FAILED TO HIT 11 (V,F) N Littmoden 4-9-3* T G McLaughlin 2
8 06-4 ARZANI 20 (G) D Cosgrove 6-8-11 M Fenton 7
9 400- SEVENTH EDITION 186 D Burchell 4-8-9 S Drowne 10
10 00-0 AFRICAN-PARD 12 D Haydn Jones 5-8-6 T Williams 3

3-1 Forest Boy, 7-2 Onefortheditch, 9-2 Golden Touch, 6-1 Bernard Seven, Three Weeks, 8-1 Maradata, 10-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

WOLVERHAMPTON: Trainers: M Johnston, 44 winners from 187 *runners,* 23.5%; R Guest, 8 from 34, 23.5%; M Bell, 9 from 45, 20.0%; P Felgate, 6 from 30, 20.0%; T Barron, 11 from 59, 18.6%; J Pearce, 8 from 43, 18.6%. Jockeys: Anthony Bond, 4 winners from 11 rides, 36.4%; J Weaver, 55 from 268, 20.5%; M Rimmer, 4 from 22, 18.2%; Alex Greaves, 7 from 48, 14.6%; R Lappin, 6 from 45, 13.3%; A Clark, 20 from 165, 12.1%.

SEDGEFIELD: Trainers: H Oliver, 4 winners from 10 runners, 40.0%; F Murphy, 3 from 8, 37.5%; Mrs M Reveley, 70 from 239, 29.3%; J Fitzgerald, 13 from 51, 25.5%; O Brennan, 3 from 15, 20%; P Beaumont, 17 from 86, 19.8%. Jockeys: P Niven, 57 winners from 180 rides, 31.7%; M Newton, 3 from 10, 30.0%; S Melrose, 3 from 10, 30.0%; R Johnson, 3 from 11, 27.3%; G Lee, 9 from 39, 23.1%.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.10 Emerald Statement
1.40 Splendid Thyne
2.10 Bella Sedona
2.40 **MOVING OUT** (nap)
3.10 Theme Arena
3.40 Sugar Hill
4.10 Arkley Royal

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — *disqualified*). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race) Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

1.10 PORTCULLIS AMATEUR RIDERS NOVICES HURDLE (£2,688: 2m 7f) (16 runners)

101 20-10 BAYERD 54 (B,S) (J King) C Egerton 6-12-5 E James (7) 78
102 11 EMERALD STATEMENT 43 (S) (Mrs C Yeates) D Grissell 7-12-5 R Thornton (5) 94
103 1-1 MINELLA DERBY 74 (S) (B Kilby) P Nicholls 7-12-5 J Tizzard (7) [illegible]
104 CLARKES GORSE (E Parker) J Gifford 6-11-12 P O'Keeffe (7) –
105 4233-P DRUM BATTLE 54 (D Crown) W G M Turner 5-11-12 E Babington (7) 97
106 5-0 EAU SO SLOE 39 (Mrs J Druce) J Poulton 6-11-12 J Goldstein (7) –
107 */3/34-22* FINE SIR 46 (BF) (N Watts) T Thomson Jones 7-11-12 M Armytage 98
108 P-03 KIND CLERIC 56 (Hammer Partners) P Hobbs 6-11-12 S Mulcaire (7) 92
109 LETMO WARRIOR (R Singer) K Burke 5-11-12 L E Balogh (5) –
110 458-0 LUCKY TANNER 54 (Superoot Partners) Miss H Knight 6-11-12 A White (7) –
111 0P45-10 MAHLER 8 (S) (English Badminton Partners) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-12 M Rimell (3) 90
112 *2154 QUINI EAGLE 8 (S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 5-11-12* A Farrant (5) 81
113 RYDER CUP (A Stirling) N Henderson 5-11-12 C Vigors (5) –
114 04 ZADOK 48 (Mrs J Willment) J Ffitch-Heyes 5-11-12 G Shenkin (7) 74
115 004/0 FORTUNES GLEAM 56 (Mrs A Garrett) J King 6-11-7 A Sansome (5) –
116 00- RAKAPOSHI IMP 249 (T Dancer) C Jones 7-11-7 Miss B Small (7) –

BETTING: 7-4 Emerald Statement, 5-2 Minella Derby, 10-1 Kind Cleric, Quini Eagle, 12-1 Fine Sir, 14-1 others

1996: MEETING ABANDONED — FROST

FORM FOCUS

BAYERD beat Flying Fiddler 13½l in 7-runner conditionals novice handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, soft) on penultimate start.
EMERALD STATEMENT beat Sioux To Speak 16l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, good to soft).
MINELLA DERBY beat Hurdante 1l in 12-runner novice hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). FINE SIR 1¼l 2nd of 16 to Southern Nights in novice hurdle at Towcester (2m 5f, good to soft). KIND CLERIC 9l 3rd of 15 to Mighty Moss in novice hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft). *MAHLER beat Colwall 2½l in 9-runner in conditional novice handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft).*
Selection: KIND CLERIC

1.40 RAMPART NATIONAL HUNT MAIDEN HURDLE (£3,091: 2m 110yd) (20 runners)

201 0 BENJI 36 (A Jackson) T Casey 6-11-7 N Williamson –
202 36 BROOKHAMPTON LANE 34 (R Tompkins) Mrs A Bowlby 6-11-7 B Powell –
203 CALM DOWN (Mrs A Wales) T Casey 6-11-7 A Thornton –
204 4 CHARLIE'S FOLLY 58 (Charbe Productions) B De Haan 6-11-7 J Osborne 87
205 4 CYPHRATIS 87 (Malcolm Plc) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-7 W Marston 92
206 *00-2 DARK ORCHARD 51 (J Group Ltd) W Muir 6-11-7* *M Richards* –
207 04- DOUBLE ACHIEVEMENT 312 (Mrs C Painting) M Pipe 7-11-7 A P McCoy –
208 ILEWINIT (T Segrue) P Ritchens 6-11-7 S Fox –
209 4-30 JAKES JUSTICE 39 (D and M Evans) J Gifford 6-11-7 P Hide 90
210 3-014 LIVELY ENCOUNTER 12 (BF,S) (F Sainsbury) Mrs M Jones 6-11-7 D Byrne 81
211 *400-34 MULLINTOR 46 (T Thompson) R Rowe 6-11-7* *D O'Sullivan* 86
212 1/42- SINGLE SOURCING 460 (F) (V Adams) Miss H Knight 6-11-7 J F Titley –
213 51-2 SPLENDID THYNE 58 (S) (J Galvanoni) T Casey 5-11-7 M A Fitzgerald [illegible]
214 4- SURSUM CORDA 287 (M Ward-Thomas) T Forster 6-11-7 R Dunwoody –
215 THIRTY BELOW (Pell-mell Partners) J Old 8-11-7 G Upton –
216 0- UPRISING 341 (Pell-mell Partners) J Old 7-11-7 *S McNeill* –
217 32 ZANDER 53 (Mrs K Duggan) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-7 D Bridgwater –
218 *SHOULDHAVESAIDNO (G Piper) T Hind 6-11-2* P McLoughlin –
219 24 SUPREME TROGLODYTE 36 (BF) (The Trogs) C Morlock 5-11-2 J R Kavanagh –
220 ZAISAN (Mrs M Sweeney) J Gifford 4-10-9 L Aspell (3) –

BETTING: 5-2 Splendid Thyne, 3-1 Cyphratis, 5-1 Single Sourcing, 7-1 Zander, 8-1 Double Achievement, 12-1 Sursum Corda, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CYPHRATIS 7l 4th of 6 to Beacon Flight in novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good). JAKES JUSTICE 2½l 3rd of 11 to Glorious in maiden hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. *LIVELY ENCOUNTER* beat Jack Gallagher 9l in 10-runner National Hunt Flat race at Towcester (2m, good to soft). SPLENDID THYNE 10l 2nd of 7 to Boardroom Shuffle in novice hurdle at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). ZANDER 5l 2nd of 16 to Lord Foley in National Hunt *Flat race at Warwick (2m, good)*
Selection: SPLENDID THYNE

2.10 MOAT SELLING HURDLE (£2,219: 2m 110yd) (22 runners)

301 50/ ANOTHER FIDDLE 57F (Mrs D Crick) B Pearce 7-11-5 T J Murphy –
302 *00-F0 DR DAVE 172 (D Dixon) P Cheesbrough? 6-11-5* A Thornton 85
303 00-P FRANKS JESTER 85 (Mrs J Oliviani) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-5 W Marston –
304 P SAYITAGAIN 216 (Technical Standards Ltd) J Jenkins 5-11-5 J Osborne –
305 6-P SULLAMELL 36 (J Hedder) R Hodges 6-11-5 D Bridgwater –
306 23-46 BELLA SEDONA 63 (E Reitel) Lady Herries 5-11-0 R Dunwoody [illegible]
307 *UP4P00- CELTIC LILLEY 230F (B) (Mrs J Taylor) J Ffitch-Heyes 7-11-0* B Fenton 62
308 00044-0 JOBBER'S FIDDLE 227 (Berkshire Components) D Williams 5-11-0 N Williamson 61
309 P KIRKIE CROSS 54F (B) (Mrs A Squires) K Wingrove 5-11-0 J Ryan –
310 PRFP03 LAURA LYE 46 (Charlie Productions) B De Haan 7-11-0 G Upton 59
311 0-4 ROSE OF GLENN 6 (S Sullivan) B Palling 6-11-0 R Farrant 76
312 *0P TOMORROWS HARVEST 47 (D Smith) R Hodges 5-11-0* T Dascombe (3) –
313 24/4-P TREAD THE BOARDS 46 (BF) (D Johnson) M Pipe 6-11-0 A P McCoy 83
314 0 CODE RED 11F (Bowman Racing) W Muir 4-10-7 M Richards –
315 U EWAR BOLD 25F (A Richards) K Cunningham-Brown 4-10-7 D Gallagher –
316 00 HALF AN INCH 23F (B) (T Dale) T Jones 4-10-7 B Powell –
317 5 HAUTE CUISINE 18F (Paris House Gourmets) R Williams 4-10-7 J R Kavanagh 78
318 ONE IN THE EYE 6F (T Anthony) J Poulton 4-10-7 A Dicken –
319 0 STORM WIND 81 (Mrs E Burke) K Burke 4-10-7 A Lamach –
320 0 SUPERGOLD 16F (B) (C Murray) C Murray 4-10-7 K Gaule –
321 U80 ARCH ANGEL 33 (P Walford) G Charles-Jones 4-10-2 Mr A Charles-Jones 76
322 3F FLASH IN THE PAN 33 (Mrs V Goodman) J Moore 4-10-2 W McFarland 85

BETTING: 3-1 Bella Sedona, 8-1 Laura Lye, Flash In The Pan, 12-1 Haute Cuisine, Rose Of Glenn, Jobber's Fiddle, *14-1 others*

FORM FOCUS

ROSE OF GLENN 23l 4th of 12 to Sam Rockett in selling hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to firm). ARCH ANGEL best effort 5l 6th of 11 to Toulston Lady in selling hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start. FLASH IN THE *PAN 1½l 3rd of 9 to Stone Island in selling novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft).*
Selection: FLASH IN THE PAN

2.40 FORT NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,571 2m 4f 110yd) (14 runners)

401 0354?-1 SCORESHEET 58 (F,G) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 7-11-10 P Hide 98
402 33?40?2 JULEIT JONES 34 (S) (J Plackett) J Gifford 8-11-7 L Aspell (3) 90
403 5U6-22F REESHLOCH 35 (S) (Mrs M Taylor) A Turnell 8-11-7 C Rae (7) 95
404 26-32F3 AMBER SPARK 43 (BF) (R Stanworth) D Gandolfo 8-11-5 R Dunwoody [illegible]
405 461 24-5 MOVING OUT 33 (F,G,S) (Mrs S Brasher) Miss H Knight 9-11-4 G Bradley 98
406 4-2532-P BALLYMAGYR 32 (P Michael) E Wheeler 8-11-4 D Gallagher 96
407 P-752-40 PARLIAMENTARIAN 62 (B) (J Wales) T Casey 8-11-2 M A Fitzgerald 96
408 2253-10 BASSENHALLY 57 (G) (Thorney Racing) Mrs P Sly 7-11-0 R Marley –
409 1P-2044 SOPHIE MAY 41 (B,BF,F,S) (J Daniels) L Montague Hall 6-10-13 A P McCoy 93
410 P2232-P BATHWICK BOBBIE 47 (W Clifford) D Williams 10-10-12 G Hogan (3) 98
411 /54-0-P4 VICTORY GATE 41 (G) (Mrs P Jenkins) Mrs L Jewell 12-10-2 D Leahy –
412 00P. OREOFUS 630 (F) (R Leahy) Mrs L Richards 6-10-0 M Richards –
413 0200-3 BARONCELLI 32 (The Gardeners) M Wilkinson 7-10-0 I Lawrence –
414 44F0-F0 BONNIFER 51 (Towcester Members) M Wilkinson 6-10-0 W Marston –

BETTING: 3-1 Scoresheet, 7-2 Amber Spark, 7-1 Juleit Jones, 10-1 Reeshloch, Moving Out, 12-1 Sophie May, 14-1 others

FORM FOCUS

SCORESHEET beat REESHLOCH (10lb better off) 13l in 9-runner novice handicap chase at Folkestone (2m, good) with SOPHIE MAY (16lb better off) 21½l 4th. JULEIT JONES 19l 2nd of 5 to Bertsun in handicap chase at Towcester (2m *110yd, good to soft). REESHLOCH 1¼l 2nd of 12* to Porphyrios in handicap chase at Worcester (2m, good). AMBER SPARK ¾l 2nd of 11 to Mammy's *Choice in maiden chase at Plumpton (2m 5f, good* to soft).
BATHWICK BOBBIE best effort 2½l 2nd of 7 to Beau Dandy in novice hunter chase at Towcester (2m 6f, good to firm) on penultimate start. *BARONCELLI last 3rd of 8 to Art Prince in novice* handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 5f, good to soft)
Selection: SCORESHEET

3.10 KEEP NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,408: 2m 110yd) (18 runners)

501 33-3 NONE STIRRED 56 (C Frewin) J Gifford 7-11-12 P Hide 90
502 8-31223 SAILEP 33 (S) (P Slade) R Hodges 5-11-11 T Dascombe (3) 94
503 0/246/0- RONANS FLUTTER 412 (S) (R Wright) D Elsworth 9-11-6 P Holley –
504 401-003 *SIR DANTE 47 (F) (P Witby) R Rowe 6-10-13* D O'Sullivan 91
505 232-P64 TOPANGA 66 (B) (J McGangan) J Bennett 5-10-12 D Bridgwater 91
506 604-56 ILEWIN JANINE 56 (T Segrue) P Ritchens 6-10-11 S Fox 92
507 00-662 MUSEUM 32 (R Barber) P Winkworth 6-10-10 X Aizpuru (7) 95
508 00UU-61 COOL GUNNER 35 (S) (R Peterson) J King 7-10-9 C Maude 90
509 0-6P *GENTLE BREEZE 57 (D Trangmar) J Gifford 5-10-8* L Aspell (3) –
510 0F-05 O MY LOVE 35 (M Willes) Miss H Knight 6-10-7 J Osborne 88
511 54-PPGU KING'S GOLD 32 (G Reilly) Mrs L Richards 7-10-7 M Richards [illegible]
512 12 THEME ARENA 9F (BF,F) (A Solomou) M Pipe 4-10-6 A P McCoy 90
513 00-F0 THAT OLD FEELING 53 (Mrs P Sherwood) J White 5-10-0 T J Murphy –
514 P0U0-4 *TUDOR TOWN 35 (P Purdy) A Bishop 9-10-0* *DOUBTFUL* 98
515 043-P00 ROYAL GLINT 47 (Mrs H Haynes) H Haynes 8-10-0 N Williamson 89
516 PF-PF0 MASTER GOODENOUGH 48 (Moonrakers Partners) A Foster 6-10-0 D Creech (7) –
517 20/3-PP0 MURPHY'S RUN 48 (B Lewendon) P Eccles 7-10-0 Mr R Thornton (5) –
518 000 HAWANAFA 41 (B) (D Hammerson) J Moore 4-10-0 W McFarland 80

BETTING. 7-2 None Stirred, 5-1 Sailep, 6-1 Cool Gunner, 7-1 Topanga, 8-1 Sir Dante, Theme Arena, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

NONE STIRRED about ¾l 3rd of 9 to Sparkling Spring in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m 4f, good). SAILEP 9½l 3rd of 8 to Hay Dance in handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good to soft). SIR DANTE 27l 3rd of 12 to Wade Road in novice *hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, good).* TOPANGA about 7½l 4th of 11 to Glorieta in maiden hurdle at *Fontwell (2m 2f 110yd, good to soft)* COOL GUNNER beat Supreme Genotin 6l in 8-runner novice handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, soft) with TUDOR TOWN (13lb better off) 13l 4th. THEME ARENA 3l 2nd of 21 to Name Of Our Father in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to firm)
Selection. COOL GUNNER (nap)

3.40 DAVE FREEMAN MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,015 3m) (18 runners)

601 F1U1/0-P BRAVE BUCCANEER 34 (D,G,S) (R Watts) A Turnell 10-12-0 C Rae (7) –
602 U315-6P CHIEF RAGER 32 (D,S) (J Cheetham) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-13 D Bridgwater 97
603 013521- PROFESSOR STRONG 274 (G,S) (B Kilby) P Nicholls 9-11-12 N Williamson 92
604 /42P/P4 MIGHTY FROLIC 43 (CD,F,G,S) (M Pinto) Miss S Edwards 10-11-9 Mr T Hills –
605 0130/ DARREN THE BRAVE 631 (D,S) (D Allport) C Brooks 9-11-9 G Bradley –
606 P12-12P ZAMBEZI SPIRIT 49 (D,BF,F,G) (P Townsend) Mrs M Jones 8-11-5 D Byrne 93
607 4210/ LITTLE-NIPPER 1439 (F,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) R Smith 12-11-4 C Maude –
608 300231- KEANO 291 (S) (Midavon Partners) P Hobbs 8-11-3 A P McCoy [illegible]
609 6535U4 BLACK CHURCH 43 (F,S) (B Alexander) R Rowe 11-10-13 D O'Sullivan 98
610 *42-2521 SUGAR HILL 43 (D,S) (Mrs T Pilkington) J Gifford 7-10-13* P Hide 91
611 /12F0/F OATS N BARLEY 33 (G) (F Landrigan) P Rodford 8-10-11 S Burrough –
612 1322/P3 CARLINGFORD LAKES 32 (S) (Mrs L Turner) T T-Jones 9-10-10 M A Fitzgerald 83
613 31226/P SHEELIN LAD 34 (S) (Mrs T M-Skinner) Mrs T McInnes Skinner 9-10-9 G Upton –
614 5/3403-P MWEENISH 34 (D,G,S) (R Hall) P Webber 15-10-9 R Bellamy 90
615 *FP054-4 SPIKEY 149 (D,G) (S Powell) J Jenkins 11-10-8* J Osborne 89
616 F013-12 EASTERN RIVER 51 (BF,G,S) (Gamston Equine) T Forster 11-10-8 S Wynne 97
617 0B/60/ VALNAU 998 (B,S) (M Pipe Racing) M Pipe 10-10-4 G Supple (7) –
618 0P0/3-P LITTLE ROWLEY 49 (J Judd) Mrs L Richards 8-10-0 M Richards –

BETTING. 7-2 Eastern River, 5-1 Professor Strong, Sugar Hill, 10-1 Keano, Chief Rager, 12-1 Brave Buccaneer, Black Church, 14-1 others

FORM FOCUS

BRAVE BUCANEER best effort beat Sparrow Hall 3l in 13-runner novice chase at Carlisle (3m, heavy), Feb 95. PROFESSOR STRONG beat Fambo Lad 2½l in 9-runner handicap chase at Punchestown (3m 1f, soft). ZAMBEZI SPIRIT best effort beat *Mine's An Ace 11l in 6-runner handicap chase at* Plumpton (2m 5f, good to firm) Oct 96, with BLACK CHURCH (16lb better off) 15l 3rd. LITTLE-NIPPER best effort beat Champagne Lad 8l in 6-*runner novice handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f soft) on penultimate start.* KEANO beat Allo George ¾l in 14-runner handicap chase at Newton Abbot (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft). SUGAR HILL beat Slideofhill 3½l in 15-runner maiden chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to soft)
Selection: LITTLE-NIPPER

4.10 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,306 2m 110yd) (20 runners)

1 1 ARKLEY ROYAL 32 (CD,S) (J Bickell) J Old 6-11-11 G Upton –
2 *10 MIDAS 35 (F) (D Robinson) A Burke 6-11-11* A P McCoy –
3 BIGSOUND (Miss V Williams) Miss V Williams 5-11-4 N Williamson –
4 BOLD LEAP (Two Generations) P Webber 5-11-4 Mr A Sansome –
5 CALDEBROOK (Mrs D Whiteman) J Gifford 6-11-4 S Laird (7) –
6 DANTE'S GOLD (Emerald Partners) C Egerton 6-11-4 J Osborne –
7 EDMOND (Lady Knutsford) T Forster 5-11-4 A Thornton –
8 0 FRANKIE MUCK 77 (R Russell) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-4 D Bridgwater –
9 KAZ KALEM (D Thompson) P Hobbs 5-11-4 G Tormey –
10 NORLANDIC (Toll House Partners) P Hobbs 5-11-4 M A Fitzgerald –
11 RASAK (Lady Herries) Lady Herries 5-11-4 E Murphy –
12 TEDROSS (J Bath) Miss A Newton-Smith 6-11-4 Mr R Thornton (5) –
13 WELSH ASSET (Miss C MacDonald) K Wingrove 6-11-4 Mr A Wintle (7) –
14 WHOD OF THOUGHT IT 289P (Inhurst Farm) P Channings 6-11-4 Mr C Vigors (5) –
15 *WISLEY WARRIOR (Wisley Golf Partners) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-4* C Maude –
16 BECKAMERE (P Butler) P Butler 5-10-13 T J Murphy –
17 GOOD TIME DANCER (Good Time Band) P Webber 5-10-13 Mr P Scott –
18 FRED MOTH (A Brown) T Hind 4-10-6 P McLoughlin –
19 MISTER ERMYN (J Daniels) L Montague Hall 4-10-6 D Morris –
20 *X-RAY (Royston Racers) J Jenkins 4-10-6* G Bradley –

BETTING: 9-4 Arkley Royal, 7-1 Wisley Warrior, 8-1 Rasak, 10-1 Norlandic, Caldebrook, 12-1 Dante's Gold, 14-1 others

FORM FOCUS

ARKLEY ROYAL beat Sharlakanda 10l in 10-runner National Hunt Flat race over course and distance (good to soft).
MIDAS best effort beat Little Jake 1½l in 10-runner National Hunt Flat race at Taunton (2m 1f, good to firm) on penultimate start. FRANKIE MUCK 32l 10th of 14 to Ultimate Smoothie in National Hunt Flat race at Newton Abbot (2m 1f, heavy). WHOD OF THOUGHT IT pulled up 2 out behind Vital Shot *in 11-runner maiden open race at Hackwood Park* (3m, good to firm)
Selection: ARKLEY ROYAL

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Leicester

Going: good to soft (hdles); good to firm (ch)

1.00 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Hurdante (A P McCoy, 10-1); 2, Mentmore Towers (5-2); 3, Penrose Lad (15-2). Eagles Rest 10-11 fav. 12 ran. NR: Honest Dave. 9l, hd. G Balding. Tote: *£10.80; £1.90, £1.50, £1.90.* DF £15.90. Trio: £25.10. CSF: £32.60.

1.30 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Special Beat (Mr C Vigors, 8-1); 2, Edredon Bleu (5-2 jt-fav); 3, Symphony's Son (7-1). Award 5-2 jt-fav. 13 ran. 2½l, 7l. N Henderson. Tote: £11.00; £3.00, £1.30, £2.10. DF: £30.90. Trio: £40.50. CSF: £28.71.

2.00 (2m hdle) 1, Fleet Cadet (G Supple, 5-4 fav); 2, Indian Temple (9-1); 3, Slightly Special (12-1). 11 ran. NR: Scottish Wedding. 4l, 2½l. M Pipe. Tote: £2.50; £1.10, £1.30, £2.20. DF: £17.10. Trio: £42.20. CSF: £13.16. Tricast: £103.84.

2.30 (3m ch) 1, Bendor Mark (A P McCoy, 10-1); 2, Yeoman Warrior (16-1); 3, Call Me River (2-1 fav); 4, Maestro Paul (8-1). 17 ran. NR: Royal Saxon. 3l, 20l. M Wilkinson. Tote: £10.30; £3.00, £3.10, £1.50, £2.30. DF: £105.40. Trio: £54.60. *CSF: £164.89. Tricast: £425.92.*

3.00 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Henrietta Howard (G Hogan, 14-1); 2, Ismeno (10-1); 3, Silver Standard (10-1); 4, Cassio's Boy (16-1). Eulogy 4-1 jt-fav. 17 ran. 1¾l, 2l. Mrs D Haine. Tote: £27.50; £3.40, £3.50, £2.20, £4.10. DF: £146.50. Trio: £223.00. CSF: £151.32. Tricast: £1,392.14.

3.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, Slingsby (A Thornton, 3-1); 2, *Uncle Algy (20-1);* 3, *Super Ritchart (20-1).* Three Philosophers 11-8 fav. 10 ran. 7l, 3l. N Gaselee. Tote: £3.10; £1.60, £4.30, £3.20. DF: £53.40. Trio: £90.20. CSF: £51.17.

4.00 (2m hdle) 1, Sanmartino (A Maguire, 8-15 fav; The Times Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, High In The Clouds (20-1); 3, *Moonax* (9-4). 18 ran. NR: Cecus Star, Legible, Red Blazer. 1½l, 4l. D Nicholson. Tote: £1.60; £1.00, £7.30, £1.10. DF: £49.60. Trio: £32.70. CSF: £19.72.

Placepot: £220.80. Quadpot: £25.50.

Lingfield Park

Going: standard

1.20 (7f) 1, Rawi (Angela Gallimore, 4-1); 2, Allstars Dancer (9-1); 3, Madonna da Rossi (8-1). Barbason 100-30 fav. 11 ran. 4l, 1½l. *Miss G Kelleway.* Tote: £5.00; £2.00, £3.40, £1.60. DF: £51.90. Trio: £39.60. CSF: £35.76. Tricast: £215.87.

1.50 (1m 4f) 1, Persian Conquest (J Weaver, 13-8); 2, Galapino (Evens fav); 3, Zahid (12-1). 6 ran. 1l, 8l. R Ingram. Tote: £2.30; £1.50, £1.20. DF: £1.60. CSF: £3.37.

2.20 (1m) 1, As-Is (J Weaver, 3-1); 2, Our Kevin (100-30); 3, Teamo (11-4). Marsh Marigold 2-1 fav. 5 ran. NR: Masterstroke. 5l, 6l. M Johnston. Tote: £4.50; £2.60, £2.00. DF: £4.30. CSF: £12.08.

2.50 (1m 2f) 1, Quiet Arch (J Bramhill, 4-1 fav); *2, Steamroller Stanly (9-2);* 3, Sweet Supposin (16-1). 10 ran. 3l, 11l. W Muir. Tote: £4.70; £1.20, £2.50, £2.80. DF: £8.60. Trio: £98.60. CSF: £20.38. Tricast: £239.91.

3.20 (6f) 1, Countless Times (J Wilkinson, 3-1 fav); 2, Mirror Four Sport (9-1); 3, Sparkling Edge (13-2). 9 ran. 6l, 1¼l. W Muir. Tote: £3.00; £2.20, £3.60, £2.60. DF: £24.70. Trio: £66.00. CSF: £29.48. Tricast: £155.11.

3.50 (2m) 1, Broughtons Formula (D R McCabe, 10-1); 2, Random Kindness (7-1); 3, Star Rage (9-4 fav). 7 ran. 1l, 5l. W Musson. Tote: £12.30; £3.40, £4.60. DF: £73.70. CSF: £73.86.

4.20 (7f) 1, *Into Debt (A McCarthy, 33-1);* 2, Hawaii Storm (100-30 fav); 3, River Stone (9-1). 11 ran. Sh hd, 3½l. J Poulton. Tote: £62.20; £10.30, £1.10, £3.40. DF: £142.90. Trio: £83.60. CSF: £191.47. Tricast: £790.05.

Placepot: £657.00. Quadpot: £98.20.

Market Rasen

Going: good

1.10 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Night Dance (A S Smith, 11-2); 2, Toby Brown (20-1); 3, Noosa *Star (33-1). Honeyschoice 2-1 fav. 19 ran.* ¾l, 1½l. K Morgan. Tote: £5.10; £2.80, £11.10, £8.60. DF: £711.10. Trio: not won. CSF: £113.83.

1.40 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Circus Line (P *Carberry, 2-1 fav); 2, Isaiah (16-1);* 3, Glenvally (20-1). 14 ran. 2l, 4l. M W Easterby. Tote: £3.80; £1.60, £4.50, £5.90. DF: £25.00. Trio: *£111.80. CSF: £34.45. Tricast: £503.33.*

2.10 (3m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Banntown Bill (D Walsh, 6-1); 2, Call The Shots (4-1 fav); 3, Change The Reign (14-1). 10 ran. 4l, 22l. M Pipe. Tote: £9.40; £2.40, £1.80, £3.10. DF: £19.50. Trio: £82.30. CSF: £29.57. Tricast: £301.96.

2.40 (2m 6f 110yd ch) 1, *Kamikaze* (C O'Dwyer, 6-1); 2, Monymoss (7-2); 3, Miss Optimist (100-30 fav). 14 ran. 11l, 2l. K Bailey. Tote: £8.20; £1.80, £1.40, £1.70. DF: £8.30. Trio: £42.60. CSF: £26.05.

3.10 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Splendid (R Johnson, 9-1); 2, Peace Lord (6-1); 3, *Darakshan (13-8 fav).* 15 ran. 6l, 4l. D Nicholson. Tote: £11.70; £3.50, £2.30, £1.70. DF: £25.60. Trio: £32.70. CSF: £65.61.

3.40 (2m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Netherby Said (R Supple, 7-4 fav); 2, Marble Man (9-1); 3, Aljadeer (3-1). 10 ran. 4l, 2l. P Beaumont. Tote: £2.80; £1.20, £2.50, £1.30. DF: £17.00. Trio: £15.10. CSF: £18.20. Tricast: £44.16.

4.10 (1m 5f 110yd flat) 1, Invercargill (D *Kiernan, 10-1);* 2, Noble Tom (16-1); 3, Alisande (9-1). Jessica One 7-4 fav. 15 ran. NR: Sunsword. ¾l, 1½l. C Mann. Tote: £21.60; £4.70, £4.20, £2.70. DF: £156.60. Trio: not won. CSF: £182.08.

Jackpot: £9,639.90 (part won. Pool of £12,354.07 carried forward to Lingfield Park today).

Placepot: £89.10. Quadpot: £6.50.

No appeal

ADRIAN MAGUIRE has decided to call off his appeal against a six-day ban for irresponsible riding at Kempton last Saturday. Maguire's ban runs from January 27 to February 1.

SPECIALISTS

LINGFIELD PARK: Trainers: N Twiston-Davies, 7 winners from 21 runners, 33.3%; J Old, 6 from 18, 33.3%; A Turnell, 8 from *29, 31.0%; M Wilkinson, 3 from 10, 30.0%;* P Nicholls, 6 from 22, 27.3%; M Pipe, 11 *from 44, 25.0%.* Jockeys: D Bridgwater, 12 winners from 40 rides, 30.0%; R Dunwoody, 12 from 42, 28.6%; D Leahy, 3 from 12, 25.0%; M A Fitzgerald, 6 from 27, 22.2%; J Osborne, 7 from 34, 20.6%.

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RUGBY UNION

Underwood secures place in cup final

By David Hands
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

RORY UNDERWOOD, who lost his club place and his England position this season, will play for Leicester in the final of the Heineken Cup against Brive in Cardiff on Saturday. He appears in his familiar left-wing berth in preference to Leon Lloyd, the teenager who made such an impact in the early rounds of the competition.

Moreover, the Leicester selectors have resisted the temptation to find a place in the back row for Eric Miller, who played so well for Ireland against France last weekend. Miller was a candidate for any one of the three positions, but it would have been a considerable surprise if he had ousted John Wells, Neil Back or Dean Richards, the club captain.

Underwood, 33 and the winner of 85 England caps, found himself out of favour with Bob Dwyer, the Leicester director of rugby, in mid-autumn. He has started only one of Leicester's European games, the pool match against Scottish Borders, and missed a series of league games, but his response will have pleased Dwyer.

That Underwood has a testimonial year coming up will have provided an extra spur, but the wing's pride and ambition have been significant factors in his improvement, demonstrated clearly with two tries against Harlequins just after Christmas.

Underwood is likely to oppose Gerald Fabre rather than Sebastien Carrat, the competition's leading try-scorer with eight, who is the Brive left wing.

The final is expected to be shown on television in 86 countries to an audience in excess of 35 million. There are indications that Leicester's travelling support will ensure a bigger attendance at the Arms Park than the 22,000 who watched Cardiff lose to Toulouse in the inaugural final last year.

LEICESTER (v Brive): J Liley, S Hackney, W Greenwood, S Potter, R Underwood, R Liley, A Healey; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, J Wells, M Johnson, M Poole, N Back, D Richards. Replacements: L Lloyd, N Malone, A Kardooni, P Freshwater, D West, N Fletcher, E Miller

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

International match
Italy v Northern Ireland
(La Favorita stadium, Palermo)

FA Cup
Third-round replay
Aston Villa v Notts County (7.45)

Coca-Cola Cup
Quarter-final
Stockport v Southampton (7.45)

Nationwide League
First division
Stoke v Norwich (7.45)

Bell's Scottish League
First division
Airdrie v Partick

Second division
Hamilton v Queen Of South

Third division
Inverness CT v Queen's Park

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Cup: Third round: Baldock v Tonbridge; Salisbury v Weymouth. *AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:* First division: Bristol C v Bournemouth (at Clevedon); Charlton v Ipswich (2.0); Oxford v Bristol R; Portsmouth v Southampton (7.0). PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Birmingham v Blackburn (at Hednesford Town FC, 7.15); Leeds v Bolton (at Halifax Town FC, 7.0); Tranmere v Manchester United (7.0); Derby v Nottingham Forest (7.0). First division: Blackpool v *Sheffield United (7.0); Middlesbrough v West* Bromwich (7.0). Second division: Wrexham v Barnsley (7.0); York v Mansfield (7.0). Third division: Darlington v Chesterfield (7.0); Doncaster v Lincoln (7.0); Rochdale v Bury (7.0); *Scunthorpe v Wigan (7.0)*. FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Home Farm v Sligo (7.45). WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Sheppey v Hythe. PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Huntly v Fraserburgh. ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Ilford v Basildon U. JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: *Premier division:* Woodbridge Town v Gorleston. JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Christchurch v Eastleigh. UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First *division: Three Bridges v Arundel.* FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Crystal Palace v West Ham. OTHER MATCH: Celtic v Bayern Munich. SCHOOLS MATCHES (2.0 unless stated): *Fuji Film Trophy: Fifth round:* Leeds v S Cheshire (S Leeds Stadium, 7.30). ESFA Goodyear Under-16 Trophy: Sneyd, Staffs v Penybeds, W Mids (7.0); St Boniface, Devon v Saltash Community (7.0); Bedminster Down, Glos v St Josephs, Wilts (7.0); Howard, Kent v William Parker, Sussex (2.15); Holloway, London v Bexley GS (5.30). ESFA Snickers Under-19 Trophy: Cirencester Col v Chippenham Col (2.15); Rainham Mark, Kent v Worthing SFC; Esher SFC v St Francis Xavier, London; St Thomas More, Northumberland v QEC, Durham (1.45); *Bilborough Col, Notts v Wilke Col,* Humberside (1.30); Wyggeston QE Col, Leics v Belper; Harvey GS, Kent v Cardinal Vaughan, London; Wootton Bassett v Easthampstead Pk, Berks (2.15); Estover Col, Devon v *Bodmin Col;* Roadsway, W Yorks v Convers, Cleveland (1.30); All Saints, Notts v Dronfield, Derbys; St Margarets Merseyside v Thornleigh Salesian, Gt Man. Boodle & Dunthorne Cup: Manchester GS v Bolton.

RUGBY UNION

Anglo-Welsh Cup
Pool 1A
Wasps v Bridgend P

Swalec Cup
Fifth round
Blackwood v Hirwaun (7.0)

Insurance Corporation League
Second division
Wanderers v Clontarf (7.0)

HART GILMOUR FOUR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Shropshire v Greater Birmingham *(at Shrewsbury, 7.30).*
CLUB MATCHES: Royal Navy v Combined London OB (at US Portsmouth, 7.30); Moseley v Loughborough Students (7.30)

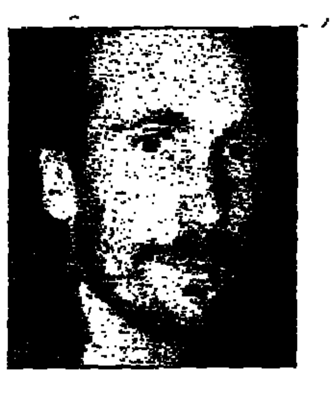
OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Manchester v Chester (7.0). 7UP Trophy: Quarter-finals, second leg: Leicester (95) v Birmingham (77) (8.0); Sheffield (83) v Worthing (81) (7.30).
BOWLS: World indoor championships (Preston)

هكذا من الأصل

Football will not stand for return to terraces

SIMON BARNES



Midweek View

Politicians! Don't you just love 'em? The latest brainwave from the political front is a call to bring back the terracing at Premiership football clubs. Remember Hillsborough? We all do, alas, but not, it appears, Tom Pendry, Labour's Shadow Sports Minister.

No, perhaps I do him an injustice. It seems that the event does strike a chord somewhere. But we need not worry about a repeat, he says, because nuclear scientists — not a class remarkable for its record in saving human life — have come up with a "crowd pressure monitoring system". So when you cram 'em in like cattle, at least with this device you will know all about it.

Now obviously this scores Pendry a cheap point from enthusiasts for nostalgia and lovers of "atmosphere". But it is hopelessly out of touch with football, the police and, for that matter, the Labour Party. The interesting thing about the business is not the old chestnut of standing versus sitting — I can't remember who it was who said that the only person who can sing sitting down is Val Doonican — but the extraordinary ineptitude of politicians when it comes to sport.

Briefly, Pendry's plan, apart from the superficial appeal of his salt-of-the-earthery, cuts right against everything that football now is. It is no longer a working class ritual. It is a fashionable and bloated plutocracy. The introduction of all-seat stadiums was intended to prevent another disaster, and you could hardly quarrel with the principle.

As a secondary matter, it was to attack hooliganism. "We don't want your hooligans in our stadiums," Ted Croker, then secretary of the Football Association, said to Margaret Thatcher. Thatcher, another politician made to look a fool by sport, was enraged. She responded with a policy of implacable hostility to football, spearheaded by her failed attempt to introduce the Orwellian membership card scheme.

Football solved the hooliganism problem without Thatcher, but by pure Thatcherism. It priced the hooligans out of the market. All-seat stadiums changed the entire demography of football-watching. You need to be a good deal richer than you used to: young men of the fighting ages, what used to be the call-up ages, cannot afford to go.

Football certainly does not wish to go back towards its former troubles in deference to this strange alliance between a politician and nuclear science. Economic science will do for them. True, the bill for that viewpoint will come in eventually, for there is a bill for everything in the end. The bill for the policy of "sell it cheap and cram 'em in" was paid in human life.

The bill for the present plutocracy will be paid in a lesser currency: in disillusion, in the loss of attention of the followers of fashion, in the alienation of the people of football's heartland. Football is a South Sea Bubble of heady finance. Of course the bubble will burst, and of course football will survive, in a less glitzy form. But right now, neither football directors nor football crowds want the terraces back. And for those who love standing and Bovril, there are plenty of salt-of-the-earth clubs outside the Premiership and the first division. Go to Barnet: a good day out, and one that will never suffer the slings and arrows of fashion.

The eccentric thing about the Pendry proposal is that he seems so out of kilter with the Labour Party. But it is ever thus when politicians get involved with sport. A specialised approach to any subject always stops you seeing things whole, and politicians tend to see everything as a matter of personal power and party faction. That is why the politicians' tendency is to trivialise, and when it comes to sport, they manage at the same time to trivialise a triviality while failing to comprehend sport's genuine importance.

Politicians are famous for grasping the wrong end of the stick. They also seek control: and the joyous thing about sport is that it is not amenable to control. Ask Adolf Hitler. He staged the Berlin Olympics: Jesse Owens said more about Nazism than a thousand moralists.

In this country, politicians are also eager to be associated with success. The European championship finals of last summer were interpreted as an attempt by John Major to recreate the national "feel-good" factor of the World Cup-winning summer of 1966. The honours list is always full of athletes, because it makes the prime minister look like a good sport.

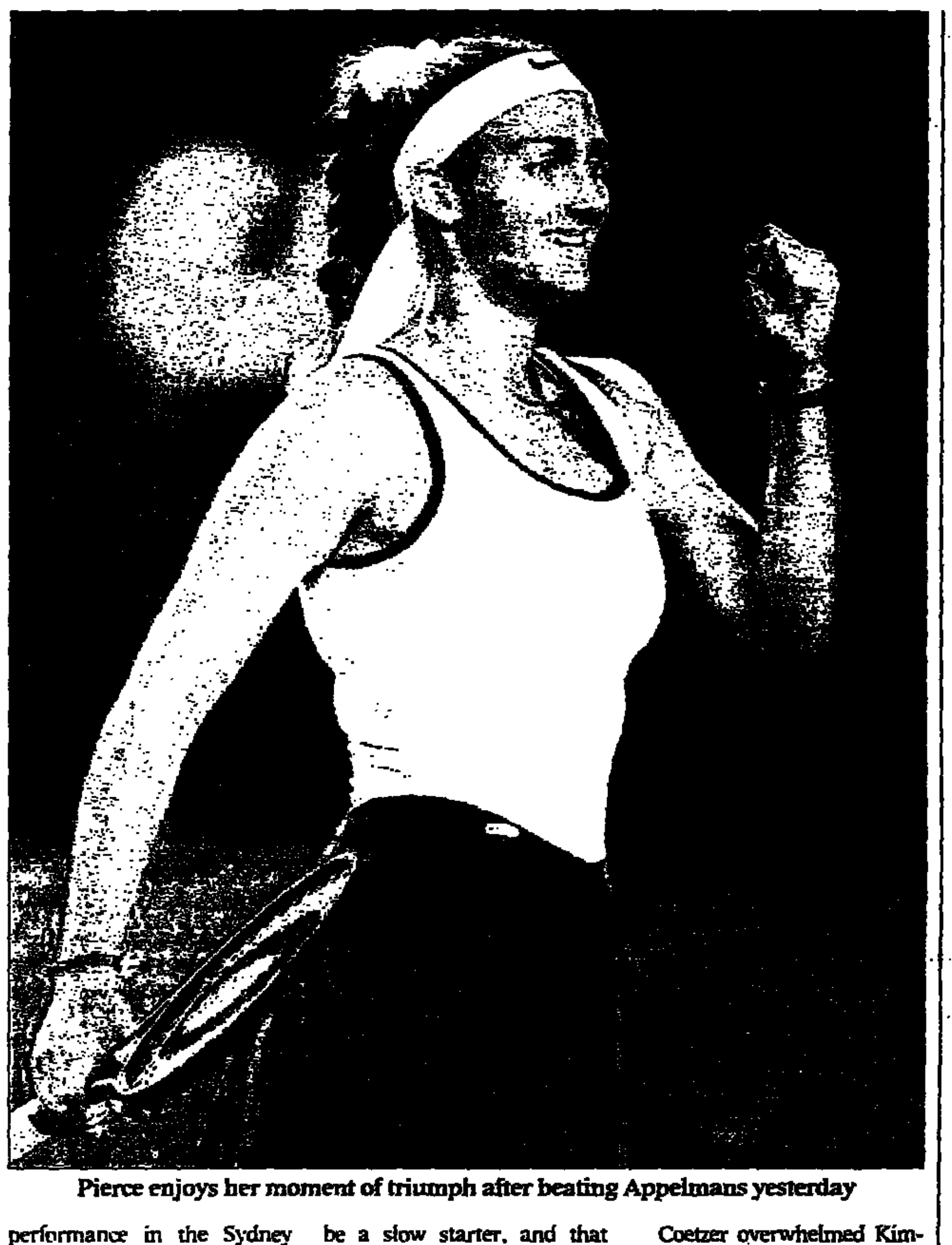
Politicians also love to dissociate themselves publicly from sporting failures. The poor performance of the England cricket team in Zimbabwe was a glorious excuse for various politicians to talk about "national disgrace", "send 'em home" and so on.

Sport, being a volatile business, depending more on the talent and mood of an individual rather than of a nation, regularly makes politicians look fools. Not that that makes sport unique. The cry used to be: "Keep politics out of sport." It would be a start if we could just keep politicians out. Sport, after all, is about wild and impossible dreams.

TENNIS

Moya wins undercover campaign

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN MELBOURNE



Pierce enjoys her moment of triumph after beating Appelmans yesterday

THE heatwave that has paralysed Melbourne this week and caused hundreds of fires across the neighbouring bushland ended late yesterday afternoon when the northerly wind changed direction and the temperature dropped. The evening turned out to be cool and rain is forecast for today, with conditions reverting to normal for the rest of the tournament.

It was so hot yesterday morning, however, that the retractable roof at Melbourne Park was closed for the first time. Neither of the Spaniards who contested the first match "indoors" on an air-conditioned Centre Court, Carlos Moya and Felix Mantilla, was consulted before the decision was taken. Moya won 7-5, 6-2, 6-7, 6-3 and will meet Michael Chang, the conqueror of Tim Henman, in the semi-finals.

In the evening on Centre Court, with the roof open, Mary Pierce, the French Canadian who won the women's title here two years ago, beat Sabine Appelmans, the Belgian left-hander, to secure a semi-final confrontation with Amanda Coetzer. Pierce lost the first set 6-1 but rallied to take the second 6-4 and, after being 3-0 down in the third, she finished strongly to win in three minutes over two hours.

She is such an infuriating actress. In the first game alone there were five twists of her ponytail and when she was not rearranging her headband she was demanding a towel from the ballboys. All the time she played to the gallery, shooting looks of surprise, disdain and delight to the spectators, not all of whom were taken by this show.

If you can imagine a hybrid of Little Bo Peep and Vanessa Redgrave at her most mannered then that is Pierce. Like all moderate actresses, she has her claque and they were out in force here, cheering her every shot. Appelmans was more worthy of the crowd's support for the gallantry of her play, but sports crowds are not always as discriminating as they might be. The show pony rides on, but she is heading for a fall.

Appelmans had her chances. At 3-3 in the second set she held two game points on Pierce's service before conceding, and after that she never looked quite the same player. It was a disappointment for her, after she had beaten Conchita Martinez.

Moya, who beat Boris Becker in the first round, is now a match away from the final. He came into the tournament on the back of a good performance in the Sydney International, where Henman beat him in the final, and has earned good notices.

"When I played the final in Sydney," he said, "it gave me confidence to realise that I was playing really well. I used to be a slow starter, and that gave me confidence. I knew that I had to play Becker, but I went to the court with confidence. When I got here I had a look at the draw, it was 120 players and now I'm in the last four."

Coetzer overwhelmed Kimberley Po 6-4, 6-1 without having to show the form that accounted for Steffi Graf. Chang beat the skilful Marcello Rios, of Chile, 7-5, 6-1, 6-4 in the last match of the night on Centre Court.

RESULTS FROM MELBOURNE

Men's singles
Quarter-finals
C Moya (Sp) bt F Mantilla (Sp) 7-5, 6-2, 6-7, 6-2; M Chang (US) bt M Rios (Chile) 7-5, 6-1, 6-4

Men's doubles
Quarter-finals
T Woodbridge (Aus) and M Woodforde (Aus) bt M Damm (Cz) and A Olhovskiy (Russ) 6-3, 6-3, 6-3; R Leach (US) and J Stark (US) bt E Ferreira (SA) and P Galbraith (US) 7-5, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6

Women's singles
Quarter-finals
A Coetzer (SA) bt K Po (US) 6-4, 6-1; M Pierce (Fr) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 1-6, 6-4, 6-4

Women's doubles
Quarter-finals
M Hingis (Switz) and N Zvereva (Bela) bt V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) and P Suarez (Arg) 6-3, 6-2; L Davenport (US) and L Raymond (US) bt C Martinez (Sp) and P Tarabini (Arg) 6-4, 7-6; L Neiland (Lat) and H Sukova (Cz) bt N Kijimuta (Japan) and N Miyagi (Japan) 6-2, 6-3; G Fernandez (US) and A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt N Arendt (US) and M Bollegraf (Holl) 6-4, 7-5

Mixed doubles
Second round
N Bradtke (Aus) and J Eagle (Aus) bt A Dechaume-Balleret (Fr) and J Grabb (US) 6-3, 6-0; I Spirlea (Rom) and D Johnson (US) bt L Davenport (US) and G Connell (Can) 7-6, 4-6, 6-4

BOYS' DOUBLES: First round: N Healey (Aus) and L Hewitt (Aus) bt I Bates (GB) and K Ziv (Isr) 4-6, 6-1, 6-3; D Sherwood (GB) and J Trotman (GB) bt I Ljubicic (Cro) and F Luzzi (It) 6-3, 6-4

ICE SKATING

Cousins seizes early edge

AFTER the preliminary examinations yesterday of the pairs and ice dances in the European championships in Paris, the solo skaters are ready to enter the fray, the men with their short programme this afternoon, the women with theirs on Friday (John Hennessy writes).

The skaters principally under scrutiny are Viacheslav Zagorodniuk, of Ukraine, the winner in Sofia last year, and Irina Slutskaya, of Russia.

Within this international cauldron, a domestic showdown is also looming. It involves the new British men's champion, Neil Wilson, 18, of Belfast, and Steven Cousins, 24, of Deeside, seven successive times the champion before Wilson dislodged him at Guildford in November.

Cousins's improved his hopes of reversing those positions yesterday when he finished fifth in group B during the qualifying competition, with Wilson tenth. Qualifying, however, is capable of laying false trails.

At the sharp end, Zagorodniuk's position seems precarious. He was sixth in qualifying in group A on Sunday, and cannot relish having been upstaged by, among others, Michael Schmerkin, an Israeli of Ukrainian origin.

Challengers from group B include Alexei Urmanov, the Olympic champion from Russia. As for Slutskaya, she has most to fear from her compatriot, Maria Butyrskaya.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

FLUTE

(c) Francis Flute is an Athenian bellows-mender in A *Midsummer Night's Dream.* He is cast to play the heroine Thisbe in Quince's play, and finds it an embarrassing and awkward task. This is because he is a self-conscious youth — "Nay, faith, let me not play a woman" he says: "I have a beard coming" — but his gawkiness greatly enhances both his portrayal of hapless Thisbe and his (few) lines in the rehearsal scenes.

SCROOP

(a) Lord Scroop in *Henry V.* Co-conspirator against Henry with Cambridge and Gray, notable for his fierce advocation that the drunk who railed at Henry's person should be punished "lest example breed, by his sufferance, more of such a kind" — advice that is subsequently and satisfyingly turned against the conspirators themselves.

BASSET

(b) A follower of Somerset and a member of the red-rose faction in *Henry VI Part One.* He quarrels with Vernon and takes him before Henry for judgment. As a result of this Henry tries to unite York and Somerset with him asgainst a more pressing enemy, the French.

LOVELL

(b) Sir Thomas Lovell, a courtier in *Henry VIII.* Lovell has plenty to do, delivering messages, attending the king, discussing the latest news. He is discreet, anonymous and elegant: court furniture that moves.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Nxc8! Qxd5 2 Ne7+ Kh8 3 Rf8+ forcing mate or 1 Re1! and if 1 ... Qxd5 2 Rc8 mate. In the game White chose the first of these alternatives.

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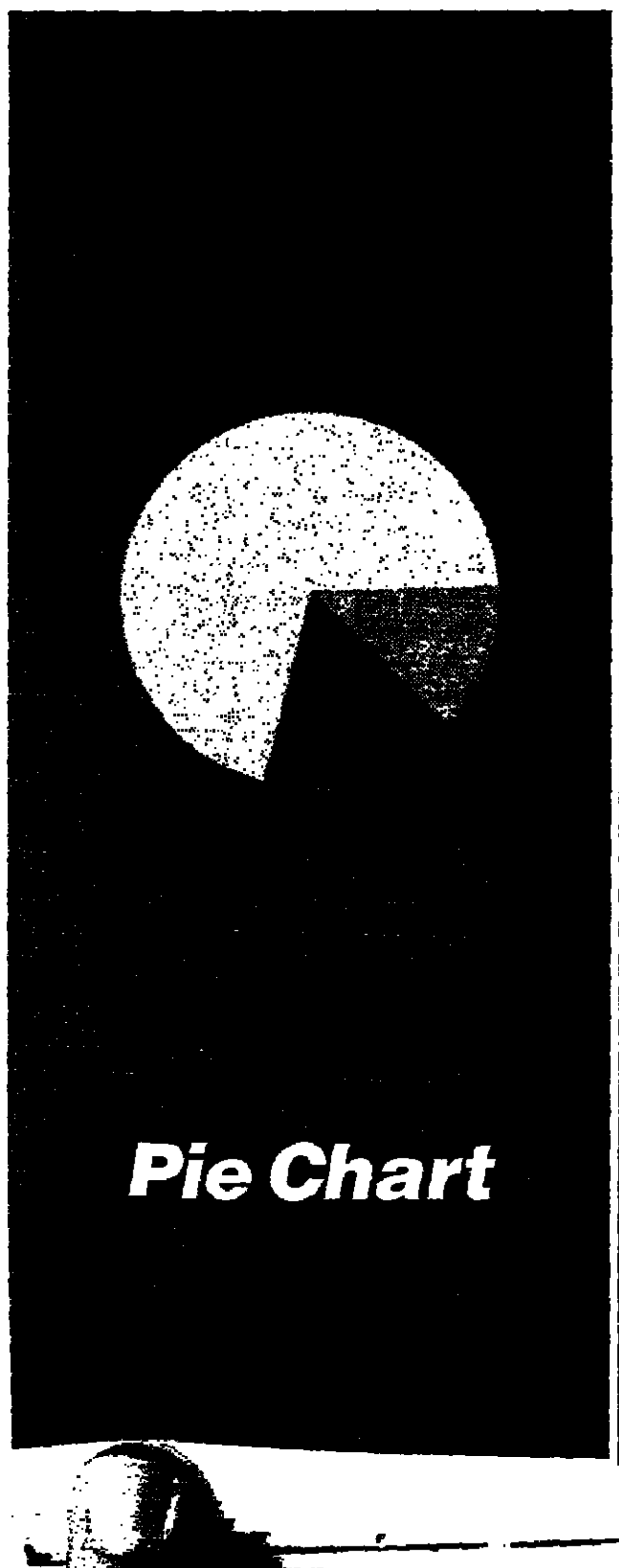

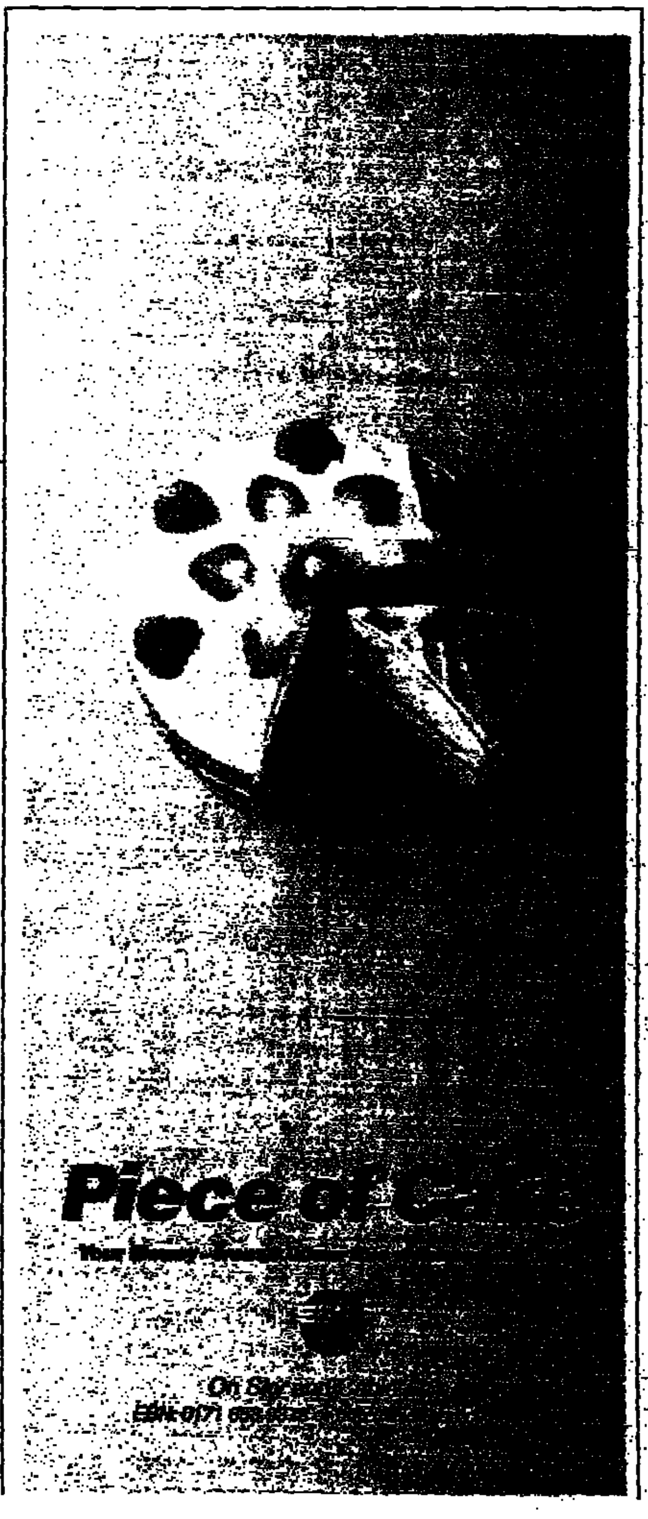

An airing for fresh ideas

Fresh Air. *Radio 4, 8.30pm.*

The media are often accused of being open only to professionals: this new series is an impressive response. *Fresh Air* is the product of a BBC appeal to media students to send in their own radio features and tonight it starts with a tape by Emma Hancorn called *The Dream Sequence.* It is innovative in style, using echo effectively (if occasionally overmuch) and there are some interesting scientific contributions about dreams and their role in the five stages of sleep. Another of tonight's tapes, *Nightshift*, is by Julian Powrys and records the work of an all-female ambulance crew on night duty in London. All the work in the programme is impressive enough to keep established programme-makers on their toes.

Mike Harding's Yorkshire Dales. *Radio 2, 9.00pm.*

This is not so much a travel story as a love story and it has the incidental benefit of making one wonder whether the Whitehall obsession with boundary changes is an attempt to ensure that British children leave school with no idea as to where they live. Harding is that rare Lancastrian, a man who wishes he had been born in Yorkshire. He loves the Dales and has done so since childhood. He now lives in Dentdale, the focus of this programme. The only problem being that Dentdale is actually in Cumbria, but the avuncular Harding correctly ignores this. People there think they live in the Dales: they think, therefore they are.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

7.00am Simon Mayo **9.00** Kevin Greening **12.00** Mary Anne Hobbs **2.00pm** Nick Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier **7.00** Evening Session with Steve Lamacq and Jo Whiley **9.00** The League Against Tedium. *Surreal and irreverent comedy from the brain behind Alan Parker, Urban Warrior* **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Claire Sturgess, includes at **12.15am** The Net **4.00** Clive Warren, with the Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up To Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with Folk on Two **8.00** A Song for Geordie (3/7) **8.30** Talking Playback. A new series focusing on Indian film music (1/4) **9.00** Mike Harding's Yorkshire Dales. See Choice **9.30** Nigel Ogden **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Adrian Finighan **3.00** Steve Madden

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.05pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, with Valerie Sanderson **7.35** Trevor Brooking's Football Night: Coverage of the best of the night's games, with reports and commentary **10.05** The Baker Line. *More football discussion with Danny Baker* **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** After Hours, with John Diamond **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Drivetime, with Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. News on the hour.
5.30am Europe Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.15** Off the Shelf **7.30** Discovery **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Concert Hall **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Andy Kershaw **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.30** The Wonderful Adventures of Mary Seacole **12.05pm** World Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Composer of the Month **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Megamix **3.05** Sports Roundup **3.15** Concert Hall **4.15** World Today **4.30** BBC English **4.45** Britain Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sports Roundup **6.30** Discovery **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Multitrack **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian On Screen **10.30** World Today **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.10** Science View **11.15** Country Style **11.30** Multitrack **12.30am** From Our Own Correspondent **12.45** Britain Today **1.30** Outlook **1.55** Words of Faith **2.30** Assignment **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Meridian Books **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Vivaldi (Bassoon Concerto in B flat major) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Newsnight **7.30** Sonata: Ravel (Sonata for Violin and Cello) **8.00** Concert: Shostakovich (Festival Orchestra, Op 96); Berlioz (Harold in Italy, Op 16); Shostakovich (Symphony No 5 in D minor, Op 47) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Includes Weber (Symphony No 1 in C); Ysaye (Solo Violin Sonata No 3 in D minor, Ballade); Chopin (Ballade No 2 in A minor, Op 38); Stravinsky (The Rite of Spring)
9.00 Morning Collection. Includes Nielsen (Little Suite for strings); Tartini (Sonata in G minor, Op 1 No 10, Didone Abbandonata); Sibelius (Symphony No 3)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Includes Wagner (Overture Das Liebesverbot); Liszt (Venezia e Napoli, Années de Pèlerinage); Barrière (Sonata for two cellos No 10 in G); Debussy (La Damoiselle Elue); Bach (Trio Sonata in C minor, BWV526)
12.00 Composers of the Week: C.P.E. Bach and Quantz
1.00pm Birmingham Lunchtime Concert. The Maggini Quartet and cellist Pat Banda perform the first broadcast of a work by Robert Simpson, String Quintet No. Also Schubert (String Quartet Movement in C minor, D703); Mendelssohn (String Quartet in E minor, Op 44 No 2)
2.00 Midweek Choice. Includes Handel (Zadok the Priest); Milhaud (L'Apothéose de Molière); Schumann (Fantasiestücke, Op 12)
4.00 Choral Evensong. Live from the Chapel of New College, Oxford. Director of music Edward Higginbottom, organ scholar Chris Hughes
5.00 Music Machine. Tommy Pearson examines the role of the tenor saxophone and talks to Tommy Smith and Andy Shepherd
5.15 In Tune, with Anthony Burton. Includes Vivaldi (Concerto in D, RV564); Kokkonen (Symphonic Sketches); Bridge (There is a Willow Grows Aslant a Brook)
6.00 BBC Rush Hour Concert. Live from Wigmore Hall, London. Michael Collins, clarinet, Kathryn Stott, piano. Includes Brahms (Clarinet Sonata in F minor, Op 120 No 1); Martinu (Clarinet Sonatina); Weber (Grand Duo Concertant, Op 48)
7.00 Cocktails. Features Lew Stone and Charlie Kunz with vocalists Vera Lynn, Al Bowlly, Eve Beck, Harry Bentley and Dan Donovan (3/8)
7.30 BBC Symphony Orchestra, under Enrique Diemecke. With James Tocco, piano, Maria Luisa Tamez, soprano. Moncayo (Huapango), Bernstein (Symphony No 2, The Age of Anxiety); Villa-Lobos (Floresta de Amazonas) (r)
9.20 Material World: Brick (3/5)
9.45 Bagpipes and Bear Dances. Hungarian Folk Tunes and a Sonatina on Transylvanian Peasant Themes by Bartok, played by Ani Schnarch, violin and Piers Lane, piano
10.00 Voices. Iain Burnside introduces a selection of settings by Shakespeare
10.45 Night Waves. Patrick Wright talks to the American poet Robin Blaser
11.30 Composer of the Week: Ravel (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Alyn Shipton in conversation with Jacques Loussier (2/2)
1.00am Through the Night

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, with *Times* columnist Libby Purves and guests
10.00 News; A Good Read (FM)
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time, with Eric Robson (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Lesley Riddoch
12.25pm King Street Junior. Created by Jim Eldridge and written by Paul Copley. With Karl Howman **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Patricia's Party. Tony Mulholland's serial about a would-be woman politician (2/3) (r)
2.45 Mother Ireland. Dorothea Melvin reflects on the changes in Irish society since the 1970s (3/5)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Includes reviews of Tom Hanks's first film as director, *That Thing You Do,* and Peter Jackson's thriller, *The Frighteners*
4.45 Short Story: Report on an Unidentified Space Station, by J.G. Ballard
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Counterpoint. Ned Sherrin hosts the general knowledge music quiz (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Face the Facts, with John Waite and his team of investigators
7.45 20/20: A View of the Century. A new series of the award-winning programme examining the impact of the last 100years on our lives and ideas. With a new presenter, Michael Ignatieff
8.30 Fresh Air. See Choice
9.00 Eureka. Barbara Myers talks to the nuclear physicist Joseph Rotblat about his career working on the atom bomb and the change of heart that won him the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Wimbledon Poisoner, by Nigel Williams (8/10)
11.15 The Cookbook of Apicius
11.00 The Cheese Shop Present... The Butter Factor. Sketches, songs and jokes with Gerard Foster, Dave Lamb, Gordon Southern, Tim Vennder and Ben Ward
11.30 Fab TV (FM). A comedy series which pays homage to the cult action adventure shows of the 1960s and 1970s. Written by and starring Morwenna Banks, Chris England and Robert Harley (1/4) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00 News incl **12.27am** Weather
12.30 The Late Book: The Third Policeman, by Flann O'Brien. Read by Patrick Magee (3/10) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE: RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

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Awkward pauses and fluffed cues all round

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

Silence, then here we are, two men seated, one higher than the other in a pool of light in a darkened room — could this be *the start of something?* There was an un-Pinteresque pause, as Harold Pinter wrestled with *Sir Jeremy Isaacs's horror-story* of a first question. Clad all in black against a black background and looking more like the start of something by Beckett than one of his own, Pinter had a couple of garbled stabs before *realising* he was getting nowhere. No, he concluded miserably, as far as he could recall he had never started a play with one character higher than the other.

Things got steadily worse. Isaacs, our *unseen inquisitor*, was having an off night with the questions; the normally rewarding format of **Face to Face** (BBC2) wasn't working, and Pinter was as nervous as a first night debutant. He gulped greedily at the tumbler of water, he shifted to and fro in his spotlit chair and every now and then he coughed. Was this the same cough, the "act of unconscious aggression", that he would later criticise British theatre audiences *for?* I listened again. Gulp, creak, cough; gulp, creak, cough. Nope, definitely nerves.

They were the nerves of somebody whose idea of the creative process is to lock himself into a darkened room, agonise over every *word and* comma, and emerge several years later clutching a masterpiece. Ask him to do it on the spot, there and absolutely then, and... he couldn't. Yes, he said, staring into the darkness for inspiration, language was enor*mously important to him.* "I become very agitated when a sentence is badly formed." As one badly formed sentence followed another, we could see that. "Yes, that's the word I was looking for," he said, as Isaacs rescued him from one particularly nasty tangle. I began to feel rather sorry for him.

Delaying just long enough to make some obscure point about Oxford linguistics and succeeding only in unsettling his subject still further ("I never attended a place of learning myself"), Isaacs quickly succumbed to the *inevitable* subject of the Pinter pause. "There are words and there are silences between words?" Yes. Terrible question. Good answer.

Isaacs tried again. "And is there silence within the words?" Toe-curling question, rewarded with complex but not uninteresting answer about "the silence of fear" — fear of being known, of know*ledge, of intimacy. So,* began Isaacs — going for the big one — if we use words to protect ourselves, "do your characters mean what they say or does what they say conceal what they mean?" Goodness, even the Cheshire Cat would have had trouble with that. But for those interested, I think the answer was... a bit of both.

Eventually, and after a more successful section dealing with the *playwright's childhood,* Isaacs brought the painful process to a clichéd close. "Let's end with a silence." Pinter looked relieved and I mourned the umpteen questions that Isaacs failed to ask. Why did you start writing? What do you understand as Pinteresque? Why are your plays getting shorter?

It was one of those nights when, for reasons known only to the channel schedulers, we never strayed far from the early 1960s. When Pinter was at *his* most prolific on this side of the Atlantic, the Kennedy years were being brought to an abrupt end on the other. Last night, that distinguished Washington veteran Charles Wheeler advanced his own theory about the Kennedy killing. Apparently somebody called Lee Harvey Oswald shot him. Sounds pretty unlikely to me.

Anyway, the result was that Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in as President, started *tape-recording his telephone calls* and, 34 years later, Wheeler got the chance to play some of them back to us in **Secret History: Hello Mr President** (Channel 4). It was a programme that got better as it went along, as we were refamiliarised (or in my case familiarised) with the President who, in Britain, is normally dismissed as the one who came between Kennedy and Nixon. It was Johnson, by the way, who advised Nixon to tape his own *phone* calls, a delicious nugget that Wheeler left until the end.

Wheeler, however, knows his Johnson backwards and proved an ideal guide to the recordings, backed up by a cleverly crafted combination of archive film, recreations and *firsthand* testimony from secretaries and advisers. This call, Wheeler announced, was "a classic example of Johnson's strong-arm technique". Others illustrated his "craving *for praise", or his* "distrust of Kennedy's inner circle".

With the President's workaholic nature established, one call had him on to the head of the Civil Service seeking "the five smartest, best educated, fastest and prettiest secretaries in Washington". Thousands of miles away, in Cold War Moscow, a KGB colonel was putting together a not dissimilar list of qualifications for women suitable for a very different job: "charming, *intelligent,* and devoted to the motherland". Tick all three and *you had just volunteered for a spot* of "bed espionage", the tacky story of which was told in the predictably prurient but well researched **Inside Story: The Honeytrap** *(BBC1).*

As has become the norm, former KGB people queued up to talk *to* tell tales out of the Lubyanka to a Western documentary-maker. Using Russian women to recruit British agents was very difficult, *we learnt, until the KGB discov*ered homosexuality and it suddenly became a whole lot easier. The Italians and Spanish were easy, but the Dutch were the worst — almost impossible to recruit. We were never told why.

BBC1

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (26919)
7.00 BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (T) (14087)
9.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (T) (4672193)
9.20 ALL OVER THE SHOP (8642667)
9.45 KILROY (1849919)
10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK (88377)
11.00 NEWS (T) and weather (6062071)
11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW (9382808)
11.45 SMILLIE'S PEOPLE Melvyn Bragg (6929938)
12.00 NEWS (T) and weather (7723990)
12.05pm THE ALPHABET GAME (6961174)
12.30 GOING FOR A SONG (4604629)
12.55 THE WEATHER SHOW (27119396)
1.00 NEWS (T) and weather (17174)
1.30 REGIONAL NEWS (44782990)
1.40 NEIGHBOURS (T) (74691087)
2.05 POLICE RESCUE (8640280)
2.50 PUT IT TO THE TEST (3513700)
3.15 HOLIDAY OUTINGS (6455280)
3.30 PLAYDAYS (3609648) **3.50** Chucklevision (3516984) **4.10** Popeye and Son (1485464) **4.35** The Wild House (7691261) **5.00** Newsround (T) (6838975) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (1523342)
5.35 NEIGHBOURS (r) (T) (692613)
6.00 NEWS (T) and weather (551)
6.30 NEWSROOM SOUTH EAST (803)
7.00 A QUESTION OF SPORT England goalkeeper David Seaman, golfer Laura Davies, champion National Hunt jockey *Tony McCoy and England rugby union* star Lawrence Dallaglio join team captains Ally McCoist and John Parrott. Chaired by David Coleman (T) (4396)
7.30 TOMORROW'S WORLD Report on a pioneering superglue to fix wounds as an alternative to stitches, following one British doctor who successfully repairs *perforated eardrums.* Plus, the sound quality of technologically advanced speakers (T) (777)
8.00 HOW DO THEY DO THAT? Eamonn Holmes and Esther McVey meet the RAF pilots who took clear photographs of the enemy while flying at 450mph, and reveal how a team from the British Film Institute have successfully restored a 101-year-old movie. Plus, the amazing babies who can swim safely underwater (T) (625209)
8.50 POINTS OF VIEW (T) (452938)
9.00 NEWS (T) and weather (1803)
9.30 COMMON AS MUCK Tragedy strikes as the bin boys rush to the seaside to rescue Nev from the clutches of gold-digger Irene (T) (661483)
10.25 OMNIBUS: The Wanderer Pianist Andras Schiff profiles the Austrian composer Franz Schubert through his work, and performs a *selection of his greatest works* as well as long-neglected pieces (T) (970803)
11.15 FILM: Gallipoli (1981) Patriotic Australians Mel Gibson and Mark Lee join the Anzac Army to fight in the First World War, but soon find *their youthful idealism* eroded by the harsh reality of the conflict. Directed by Peter Weir (256071)
1.05am WEATHER (5357217)

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BBC2

6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY: The Leathart Collection (4070919) **6.25** Stand by Your Banner! (4082754) **6.50** Melodrama (4150483) **7.15** See Hear News (6939532) **7.30** Help! It's the Hair Bear Bunch (2485209) **7.55** Record Breakers Gold (2272464) **8.20** Teddy Trucks (3997648) **8.25** Spot (6209754) **8.35** The Record (3329919) **9.00** Jeunes Francophones (8620445) **9.25** See You, See Me (4586342) **9.45** Words and Pictures (8151716) **10.00** Playdays (52957) **10.30** Numbertime (8716377) **10.45** Cats' Eyes (8704532) **11.00** Around Scotland (5861280) **11.20** Music Makers (5104464) **11.40** Taking Issue (6902261) **12.00** Spanish Globo (7721532) **12.05pm** History File (6969716) **12.30** Working Lunch (14223) **1.00** The Geography Programme (80088803) **1.20** Thunderbirds in French (69473280) **1.25** Zig Zag (80007938) *1.45 Come Outside* (44709667) **2.00** Teddy Trucks (98392286) **2.05** Spot (98391551) **2.10** Everyone's Got One (9121754) **3.00** News (6120377) **3.05** Westminster (7082025) **3.55** News **4.00** Today's the Day (716) **4.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (700) **5.00** Esther (2174) **5.30** The Village (691984) **5.55** Turning Points (419358)
6.00 STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION (r) (T) (748754)
6.45 TENNIS Highlights from the Australian Open (135551)
7.30 ALVIN HALL'S GUIDE TO SUCCESSFUL INVESTING (3/3) Alvin shows how to make money out of so-called alternative investments (629)
8.00 DELIA SMITH'S WINTER COLLECTION: Pancakes and Marmalade (r) (T) (r) (8358)
8.30 RICK STEIN'S FRUITS OF THE SEA (2/6) The chef meets a French *fisherwoman who prepares* a dish of squid *braised* in wine and travels to Brittany to discover how the perfect bouillabaisse is made (T) (1803)
9.00 ICE SKATING Coverage of the pairs free programme from the European Figure Skating Championships. Plus, highlights from the men's short programme (649735)

Jonathan Heynes (9.50pm)

9.50 TROUBLE AT THE TOP Cameras follow Jonathan Heynes as he tries to turn Reliant Motors into a successful company (T) (173803)
10.28 VIDEO NATION SHORTS (740071) **10.30** Newsnight (897303) **11.15** This Life (361551) **11.55** Weather (891532) **12.00** The Midnight Hour (82385)
12.30am LEARNING ZONE: O.U.: Darwin and Diversity **1.00** A School of Genes (59120) **1.30** Rats and Super Rats (52977) **2.00** Into Music (61651) **4.00** English Heritage (25236) **4.30** Unicef in the Classroom: Meena (47385) **5.00** Modern Apprenticeships (23217) *5.30* Birds on Lowland Farms (83014)

CHOICE

Alvin Hall's Guide to Successful Investing

BBC2, 7.30pm

The smooth-talking New Yorker rounds off his series by looking at what he calls alternative investments. These can be anything from racehorses to fine wines, film posters, fine art photography and West End musicals. It is a lively trawl through an entertaining field, though *even the National* Lottery would seem to offer more promise of a quick fortune. For an expert who is supposed to pinpoint the good bets, Hall has surprisingly little to offer. On the contrary, *he keeps saying how risky his featured* investments are. He starts with an ostrich farm which went bust, losing its 4,000 investors £20 million, and even slips in a cautionary tale about the Dutch tulip craze of, wait for it, 1636. After watching Hall the boring old building society account suddenly looks like a good idea.

Travelog: Madrid and Andalucia

Channel 4, 8.30pm

Regular viewers of *Travelog* will not be surprised that this programme on Spain keeps well clear of the Costa Brava and the Costa del Sol. Leaving the crowded beaches *and faceless hotels to the package tourists,* Samantha Norman explores Madrid, and the show's jocular resident guide, Pete McCarthy, goes to Andalucia. Even in the Spanish capital Norman forsakes the Prado *and other big and famous art galleries for* Goya frescoes in a tiny chapel, though her reports on shopping and nightlife are in more conventional vein. McCarthy, meanwhile, proves that just a few miles from *Malaga airport, destination* of a million British holidaymakers last year, lies mountainous scenery which is as ruggedly striking to look at as it is untouched by the encroachments of modern tourism.

Trouble at the Top: Robin Rides Again

BBC2, 9.50pm

The latest film in an excellent series about risky business ventures concerns the much-loved and much-mocked Reliant Robin. Three times in the past five years the company has gone bust. The latest saviour is Jonathan Heynes, whose experience of car manufacture has been at the other end of the *market with Jaguar. He takes over a factory* deserted and delapidated, its only assets 14 partly finished cars. With his wife running the accounts, and their young son helping to clean the floor, Heynes mounts his rescue *operation. His aim is to drive up production* while driving down costs and he pushes himself and his workforce to the limit. His energy and determination are breathtaking but there are many nasty moments before he can claim that the favourite transport of Trotters International Traders is securely back on the road.

Omnibus: The Wanderer

BBC1, 10.25pm

The Hungarian pianist Andras Schiff makes an appropriate guide to the life and music of Franz Schubert, who was born 200 years ago this month. For one thing, Schiff is a *distinguished modern interpreter of* Schubert's piano works, as he demonstrates in extracts from the exquisite sonatas. For another, he reveals that Schubert, of all the great composers, is the one who touches him *most.* Schiff's portrait is as deft as his piano playing, drawn with light but telling strokes. He presents Schubert as a man of humility and simplicity who packed an enormous amount into a short span. It was a difficult life, blighted by lack of recognition and, latterly, the syphilis which killed him at the age of 31. But Schiff reckons it was a finished *life, rather than one that was cut short and* left promise unfulfilled. **Peter Waymark**

HTV

6.00am GMTV (1595193)
9.25 WIN, LOSE OR DRAW (8627358)
9.55 REGIONAL NEWS (9420483)
10.00 THE TIME, THE PLACE (98193)
10.30 THIS MORNING (83080667)
12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (7729174)
12.30 NEWS (T) and weather (4622025)
12.55 SHORTLAND STREET (4607716)
1.25 HOME AND AWAY (T) (T) (80085716)
1.50 AFTERNOON LIVE The guests are Sian Phillips and Dora Bryan (74606919)
2.20 VANESSA (T) (23452629)
2.50 AFTERNOON LIVE (9167174)
3.20 NEWS *(6137667)*
3.25 REGIONAL NEWS (6136938)
3.30 *TOTS TV* (2190349) **3.40** The Blobs (1243990) **3.50** The Little Mermaid (3698532) **4.15** The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries (1479803) **4.40** Woof! (4773272)
5.10 LOOK AND COOK: Classic Fruit Dishes (r) (8862358)
5.40 NEWS (T) and weather (948919)
6.00 HOME AND AWAY (r) (T) (782716)
6.25 HTV NEWS (T) (532700)
7.00 EMMERDALE Frank vows to stop the rumours circulating about baby James (T) (9464)

Amanda Barrie, Helen Worth (7.30pm)

7.30 CORONATION STREET Gail and Alma *almost come to blows* (T) (483)
8.00 DES O'CONNOR TONIGHT Guests include Lionel Richie, Eddie Izzard, Michelle Gayle and Phil Cool (3377)
9.00 HOLLYWOOD LOVERS (3/6) Goldie Hawn, Charlie Sheen, Bette Midler and *First Wives' Club* author Olivia Goldsmith *recount their experiences of divorce* (T) (2223)
10.00 NEWS (T) and weather (76754)
10.30 REGIONAL NEWS (338613)
10.40 FILM: Night on the Town (1987) starring Elizabeth Shue, Maia Brewton and Keith Coogan. Comedy about the misadventures of a *baby sitter and her* charges when they embark on an errand of mercy in down town Chicago. Directed by Chris Columbus (30110759)
12.40am DATING THE ENEMY New series of heated debates in which men take one side and women take the other to address the problems arising from modern relationships. Presented by Patricia Mitchell (6397859)
1.45 FILM: Erik the Viking (1989) Off-beat historical satire starring and directed by *Terry Jones with Tim Robbins and John* Cleese (454032)
3.30 NOT FADE AWAY (r) (71236)
4.30 THE TIME, THE PLACE (r) (74439)
5.00 CORONATION STREET (r) (T) (10743)
5.30 NEWS (10168)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (4607716)
5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (8862358)
6.25-7.00 CENTRAL NEWS (532700)
10.40 HIGHLANDER: THE LADY AND THE TIGER (501822)
11.40 HUNTER *(444358)*
1.40am FUNKY BUNKER (2247236)
2.40 THE CHART SHOW (4813491)
3.35 COMEDY CENTRAL (6713526)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 EMMERDALE (4607716)
5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY *(8862358)*
6.00-7.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (87358)
10.40 Film: DRACULA *(30110759)*

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (4607716)
5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (8862358)
6.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT (919)
6.30-7.00 BIRDWATCH WITH CHRIS PACKHAM (241)
10.30 MERIDIAN NEWS (425193)
10.45 ALFRED HITCHCOCK PRESENTS (414342)
11.40 PRISONER: CELL BLOCK H (728822)
12.35am FILLER (8731548)
4.25 FILLER (71641656)
5.00 FREESCREEN (10743)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 CROSSWITS (4607716)
5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (8862358)
6.25-7.00 ANGLIA NEWS (532700)
10.40 Film: HELLO AGAIN (30110759)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am SESAME STREET (19629)
7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (30025)
9.00 BEWITCHED (53803)
9.30 YSGOLION (361613)
12.00 HOUSE TO HOUSE (73667)
12.30pm HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER (65939)
1.00 SLOT MEITHRIN (37984)
1.30 Film: MY FOOLISH HEART (72915984)
3.25 FRESH POP (6127280)
3.30 FRANCES BISSELL'S WEST COUNTRY KITCHEN (377)
4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (984)
4.30 WINGS (396)
5.00 5 PUMP *(4342)*
5.30 COUNTDOWN (648)
6.00 NEWYDDION *(306445)*
6.05 HENO (793822)
6.35 GAIR AM AUR (675087)
7.00 POBOL Y CWM (896803)
7.25 FFERMIO *(366629)*
8.00 HAWLIO (6754)
8.30 NEWYDDION (5261)
9.00 SPIN CITY (1613)
9.30 ROSEANNE (80445)
10.00 BROOKSIDE (342006)
10.35 ER (416700)
11.30 DRESSING FOR BREAKFAST (90919)
12.00 UNDER THE MOON (7602859)
4.00am YSGOLION (5685830)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am SESAME STREET (19629) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (30025) **9.00** Bewitched (53803) **9.30** Schools (361613) **12.00** *House to House (73667)* **12.30pm** *Here's* One I Made Earlier (65939) **1.00** Cybill (55905957) **1.25** Holiday (80083358)
1.50 FILM: You'll Never Get Rich (1941, b/w). A Cole Porter musical starring Fred *Astaire and Rita Hayworth. Directed* by Sidney Lanfield (T) (82405919)
3.30 COLLECTORS' LOT (r) (T) (377) **4.00** Fifteen-To-One (T) (984) **4.30** Countdown (T) (396) **5.00** Ricki Lake (T) (9188822) *5.45* Scrimpers (213735)
6.00 PARTY OF FIVE American sitcom. *Kirsten receives some bad news while* Bailey finds the temptation to cheat too great (T) (724174)
6.50 FRESH POP (362261)
7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (T) (953713)
7.55 BOOK CHOICE: BOOKS OF THE CENTURY *The Times* columnist Valerie Grove *looks at some of the literature* for children that featured in the Books of the Century poll (T) (407613)
8.00 BROOKSIDE Will Jackie sign away her last chance of a future with Jimmy? Will Mick finally manage to get some time alone with Elaine? And Terry makes a *decision concerning his new-found family* (T) (6754)
8.30 CHOICE **TRAVELOG** Sam Norman explores the city of Madrid which is becoming popular as a weekend break *destination,* and Pete McCarthy discovers the beauty of the Andalusian hills which although lying just behind Malaga and Gibraltar remain unspoilt by tourism (T) (5261)
9.00 HEROES OF COMEDY: ARTHUR HAYNES A tribute to the highest-paid television star of the 1960s. Includes contributions from, among others, Nicholas Parsons, Patricia Hayes, Charlie *Chester and Johnny Speight* (r) (T) (4483)

The medical drama team (10.00pm)

10.00 ER: Don't Ask, Don't Tell American hospital drama series. The new chief of staff institutes a strict regime of rules that manage to upset everybody. The will-*they-won't-they romance between Green* and Lewis begins to blossom (T) (1342)
11.00 FRIENDS: The One Where Heckles Dies New York comedy series. A neighbour dies, but remembers Monica *and Rachel in his will (r) (T) (6358)*
11.30 CHEERS Boston bar comedy. Relationships blossom and crumble aboard Evan Blake's yacht (r) (T) (90919)
12.00 UNDER THE MOON Danny Kelly and Tim Clark present the sports magazine featuring coverage of American basketball and **Transworld Sport** (7602859)
4.00 SCHOOLS (5685830)
5.15 BACKDATE Quiz show presented by Valerie Singleton (r) (T) (77507)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

Conrad James, Ian Hart in *Clockwork Mice* (Movie Ch, 10.00pm)

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (857735) **9.00** Designing Women (15667) **9.30** Designing Women (28629) **10.00** Another World (71396) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (51532) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (34280) **1.00pm** Geraldo (47700) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (44700) **3.00** Jenny Jones (43464) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (59071) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4551) **6.00** Real TV (4613) **6.30** Married — with Children (1193) **7.00** *The Simpsons* (5280) **7.30** *MASH (7377)* **8.00** Sightings (75551) **9.00** Silk Stalkings (52087) **10.00** Murder One (65174) **11.00** *Star Trek: The Next Generation* (72025) **12.00** LAPD (48965) **12.30** The Lucy Show (19708) **1.00** Hit Mix (65304)

SKY 2

7.00pm Hercules: The Legendary Journeys (9035493) **8.00** Renegade (8911803) **9.00** New York Undercover (8931667) **10.00** Water Rats (8934754) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (7006930) **12.00** Hit Mix Long Play (2074304)

SKY NEWS

Nonstop news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Fury at Smugglers' Bay (1960) (29754) **8.00 Flight of the Doves** (1971) (31280) **10.00 Ghost of a Chance** (1987) (26261) **12.00 Lucky Lady** (1975) (21803) **2.00pm Guarding Tess** (1995) (89754) **4.00 The First Man in the Moon** (1964) (9483) **6.00 Dad, the Angel and Me** (1995) (99377) **7.30** E! News Week in Review (2445) **8.00 Guarding Tess** (1995) (71735) **10.00 The Puppet Masters** (1995) (903342) **11.50 The Red Shoe Diaries: Night of Abandon** (1995) (601648) **1.20am Rooftops** (1989) (904410) **3.00 Hostile Advances: The Kerry Ellison Story** (1996) (36453) **4.30 Ghost of a Chance** (1987) (71965)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The Gypsy Colt (1954) (12349) **7.30 Moby Dick** (62629) **8.30 Willy Fog: Journey to the Centre of the Earth** (89629) **10.00 Helen of Troy** (1956) (24803) **12.00 Sun Valley Serenade** (1941) (70754) **1.30pm Bedlam** (1946) (2339613) **2.50 The Son of Robin Hood** (1958) (6323667) **4.00 Swiss Family Robinson** (1973) (55209) **5.00 Moby Dick** (7261) **6.00 Second Chance** (1995) (67532) **8.00 Speechless** (1994) (79377) **10.00 Clockwork Mice** (1994) (241629) **11.40 Heavenly Creatures** (1994) (104919) **1.25am Ruby in Paradise** (1993) (477781) **3.20 Ed McBain's 87th Precinct: Ice** (1996) (258859) **4.55 Swiss Family Robinson** (1973) (39419014)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Long Hot Summer (1958) (6738218) **6.00 The Front Page** (1975) (9597071) **8.00 Supergirl** (1984) (9672716) **10.00 A Nightmare on Elm Street II: Freddy's Revenge** (1985) (3196844) **11.30 White Mischief** (1987) (7199822) **1.20am Marilyn: The Untold Story** (1980) (61629839) **3.45-5.50 National Velvet** (1944) (32133859)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over at 10pm.

6.00am Mouse Tracks (3375174) **6.25** Quack Attack (3394209) **6.50** Bonkers (8841577) **7.15** *The Little Mermaid* (9208667) **7.40** Aladdin (4589483) **8.05** Mighty Ducks (8373648) **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa (5868716) **8.40** The Care Bears (6834984) **9.10** Groundling Marsh (8781272) **9.40** Big Garage (8137209) **9.55** Lamb Chop's Play Along (6158700) **10.25** Muppet Babies (4075280) **10.35** Adventures in Wonderland (5639071) **11.25** Mouse Tracks (6848396) **11.55** *Under the* Umbrella Tree (4422648) **12.25pm** Fraggle Rock (4437990) **12.55** Ralph's Mouse (8302272) **1.45** *Aladdin* (92514025) **2.10** The Little Mermaid (85478754) **2.35** Bonkers (7665782) **3.00** Quack Attack (7835700) **3.25** *Timon and Pumbaa* (9370629) **3.35** Goof Troop (4622006) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (3937990) **4.10** Goof Troop (1687700) **4.35** *Bonkers* (7043290) **5.00** Aladdin (3170342) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (1218261) **5.35** Darkwing Duck (686803) **6.00** *Mighty Ducks* (86280) **7.00** Almost Home (3006) **7.30** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (451071) **8.15** Touched by an Angel (714987) **9.00** *Life's Work* (33071) **9.30-10.00** Golden Girls (98025)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (70321) **7.30** Wrestling (46280) **8.30** Racing News (25613) **9.00** Sports Centre (12193) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (58483) **10.00** Classic Rugby League (51803) **11.30** Football Hall of Fame (87822) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (98759) **12.30pm** Boxing (27667) **2.30** Footballers' Football Show (59006) **3.30** Football *Hall of Fame* (3919) **4.00** Rebel Sports (5754) **4.30** Windsurfing (1938) **4.59** Sports Centre (9151071) **5.00** Wrestling (2735) **6.00** *Sports Centre* (2803) **6.30** Grass Roots Rugby (6483) **7.00** International Cricket (14767) **8.00** Golf Extra (17551) **10.00** Sports Centre (48218) **10.30** Futbol Mundial (19006) **11.00** Grass Roots Rugby (78174) **11.30** World of Speed and Beauty (67629) **12.00** Sports Centre (93439) **12.30am** Rebel Sports (47762) **1.00** International Cricket (43269) **2.00** Inside the PGA Tour (23323) **2.30** Sports Centre (57930) **3.00** Live: European PGA Golf: Johnnie Walker Classic (90014)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Beach Volleyball (67877071) **1.00am** Golf Extra (58717938) **3.00** Sports Unlimited (43825377) **4.00** World of Sailing (81047087) **4.30** World of Speed and Beauty (81963071) **5.00** The Footballers' Football Show (75362087) **6.00** Beach Volleyball (67979483) **7.00** Sports Centre (76353716) **7.30** Coca-Cola Cup Football — Live (15214551) **10.00** *International* Cricket (20406551) **11.00-11.30** Inside the PGA Tour (43732613)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Figure Skating (55984) **9.00** Luge (49342) **10.00** Australian Open (5486071) **5.00pm** Live Figure Skating (1062377) **9.00** Australian Open (92754) **10.30** Snowboarding (48254) **11.00** Boxing (12667) **12.00-12.30** All Sports (88507)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Krypton Factor (8223386) **6.30** Tickle on the *Turn* (34317716) **6.45** 1-2-3 Go! (26220280) **7.00** Alberts (5012716) **7.15** Tickle on the Turn (9009803) **7.30** *Graham's Ark* (5208303) **7.50** Josie Smith (3921990) **8.00** Classic Coronation Street (1133990) **8.30** Families (1132261) **9.00** *Dempsey and Makepeace* (8209716) **10.00** A Fine Romance (4969632) **10.30** Mixed Blessings (1152025) **11.00** Persuasion (8500415) **12.00** Classic Coronation Street (1143377) **12.30pm** Families (9169648) **1.00** Crown Court (1259784) **1.30** *Disguises* (9168919) **2.00** Within These Walls (4960261) **3.00** Floodtide (9241464) **4.00** The Doctor Series: In Charge 1 (2740532) **4.30** A Fine Romance (2746716) **5.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (3552629) **6.00** Classic Coronation Street (2767209) **6.30** Families (2741261) **7.00** The Doctor Series: In Charge 1 (3553358) **7.30** Mixed Blessings (2747445) **8.00** Floodtide (6459803) **9.00** Classic Coronation Street (4594613) **9.35** The Good Life Guide (2978782) **10.00-11.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (6472754) **From 11.00pm-2.00am Men and Motors**

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00am-9.00 TV High Street. Includes consumer news and features and Your Stars presented by Russell Grant **From 9.00-12.00 Food and Wine.** Includes recipes and ideas from Delia Smith **From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Beauty.** Includes Natural Health **From 3.00-6.00 Home and Garden.** Includes The Good Life Style Guide

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography: Pocahontas (6572174) **5.00** History Alive (1154919) **6.00** Our Century (1119667) **7.00-8.00** Biography: James Stewart (5541957)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic series every day from 8pm-4am Monday to Wednesday and 1am-4am Thursday to Sunday on satellite, and from 8am-4am every day on cable.

8.00pm Amazing Stories (1164396) **8.30** Twilight Zone (1143803) **9.00 FILM: Dune** (37682006) **11.45** The Making of Star Trek: First Contact (1217071) **12.00** The Incredible Hulk (9149859) **1.00am** Twilight Zone (6466878) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (9051217) **2.00** New Alfred Hitchcock (3360930) **2.30** Night Gallery (3379965) **3.00-4.00** Friday the 13th (7872897)

TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am The Joy of Painting (3545025) **9.30** Grow Your Own (1164713) **10.00** Go Fishing (9398803) **10.30** Our House (3541209) **11.00** The Painted House (4685990) **11.30** This Old House (4693919) **12.00** Sweet Things (3525261) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (3569349) **1.00** Today's Gourmet (8938342) **1.30** Home Again (8914290) **2.00** Hometime (8825087) **2.30** Furniture on the Mend (4220880) **3.00** Two's Country (8837822) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (5775975)

DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.

4.00pm Fishing Adventures (6288712) **4.30** Giants of the Nullarbor (4125236) **5.00** Connections 2 (8849667) **5.30** Beyond 2000 (6125416) **6.00** Wild Things (9375939) **6.30** Wildfilm (9175731) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (8829803) **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and *Miracles (3775795)* **8.00** *Mysterious World* (8838551) **8.30** The Quest (8824358) **9.00** Unexplained (8906667) **10.00** Silent Witness (8901754) **11.00** Warriors (8028919) **12.00** Wings of the Luftwaffe (2081120) **1.00am** Top Marques (2795120) **1.30-2.00** High Five (2130830)

UK GOLD

7.00am Terry *and* June (7535464) **7.35** Neighbours (9800613) **8.00** Crossroads (7508700) **8.25** EastEnders (8022826) **9.00** The Bill (3547483) **9.30** Big Deal (5441464) **10.30** The Sullivans (3543667) **11.00** Juliet Bravo (8936984) **12.00** Crossroads (3534919) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1269367) **1.00** EastEnders (6302193) **1.35** Rosie (5449025) **2.15** Up the Elephant (4815342) **2.50** 'Allo 'Allo! (8966087) **3.30** The Bill (3975993) **4.00** *All Creatures Great and* Small (4505700) **5.00** Bob's Full House (7689464) **5.40** Crossroads (3983984) **6.05** *EastEnders* (7061919) **6.40** *Generation* Game (16066464) **7.50** Are You Being Served? (7773464) **8.30** Russ Abbot (8826716) **9.00** The Bill (4501984) **9.30** The Paradise Club (85458396) **10.35** The Young Ones (2634716) **11.20** Jongleurs (4733483) **11.50 FILM: Hell Drivers** (7781396) **1.40am** Miami Vice (4532859) **2.30** Shopping (5949897)

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (5494822) **6.45** Pugwall (378445) **7.15** Saved by the Bell (375358) **7.45** California Dreams (374629) **8.15** Sweet Valley High (457071) **8.45** Art Attack (1305826) **9.00** Tiny TCC (5991795) **9.20** Brum (1591939) **9.40** Johnson and Friends (9421938) **9.50** Towser (9410822) **10.00** Robin and Rosie of Cockleshell Bay (4914377) **10.15** King Rollo (1569803) **10.20** Philbert the Frog (1566716) **10.25** Christopher Crocodile (4820984) **10.40** Charlie Chalk (3004342) **11.00** Dinobabies (39209) **11.30** Jim Henson's Animal Show (30938) **12.00** Barney (54193) **12.30pm** Where's Wally? (81735) **1.00** Casper and Friends (35290) **1.30** Tiny and Crew (12921844) **1.45** Teddy Trucks (57890390) **1.55** Johnson and Friends (75944209) **2.15** Babaloos (62755445) **2.20** Bump (62776938) **2.30** Christopher Crocodile (3428984) **2.40** Mr Benn (7404290) **3.00** Pugwall (1071) **3.30** Saved by the Bell (2629) **4.00** California Dreams (4464) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (6808)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Turtles (49396) **6.30** Biker Mice (78735) **7.00** *Rocko* (2538209) **7.15** Hey Arnold! (7440261) **7.30** Rugrats (15700) **8.00** Doug (24984) **8.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (29483) **9.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (10735) **9.30** Arthur (56025) **10.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (8515445) **10.10** Wincie's House (2408071) **10.30** Lizzie's Library/Mr Men/Bananas in Pyjamas (16919) **11.00** Children's BBC (20808) **12.00** Magic School Bus (27071) **12.30pm** *Mr Men* (54613) **1.00** Babar (20844) **1.30** Katie and Orbie (53984) **2.00** Little Bear Stories (1590) **2.30** Children's BBC (57648) *3.30 Aaahh! Real Monsters (4261)* **4.00** Bruno the Kid (3396) **4.30** Rugrats (7912716) **4.45** Doug (7837071) **5.00** Sister Sister (8342) **5.30** Kenan and Kel (3532) **6.00** Alex Mack (5795) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (4025)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Family Ties (1006) **7.30** Benson (5939) *8.00 Entertainment UK (3714)* **8.30** Hooperman (9261) **9.00** Bakersfield PD (91071) **9.30** Taxi (47377) **10.00** Wings (28700) **10.30** London Underground (17648) **11.00** Paramount Presents (76716) **11.30** Frontline (85071) **12.00** Saturday *Night Live (23255)* **1.00am** *Hooperman* (84520) **1.30** Bakersfield PD (57897) **2.00** Entertainment UK (21965) **2.30** Paramount Presents (57912) **3.00** Taxi (98658) **3.30-4.00** Wings (24052)

BRAVO

12.00 The Time Tunnel (4419880) **1.00pm** Remington Steele (7463700) **2.00** Department S (9393358) **3.00** Space: 1999 (4684261) **4.00 FILM: Hornet's Nest** (8835464) **6.00** Return of the Saint (8019844) **7.00** Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased) (8906209) **8.00** Hammer House of Horror (8982629) **9.00** The Persuaders (8995193) **10.00-12.00 FILM: The House by the Cemetery** (4683532)

UK LIVING

6.00am Kilroy (6231939) **6.50** Trivial Pursuit (16579754) **7.10** Turnabout (4569006) **7.40** The Young and the Restless (5286532) **8.30** Rhodes Around Britain (9591613) **9.00** Gladrags and Glamour (9741938) **9.10** Gabrielle (4988483) **10.05** Jerry Springer Uncut (3571193) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (2961803) **11.55** Brookside (88598919) **12.25pm** Call the Doctor (19334629) **12.55** *Tempest! (5818193)* **1.40** The Gordon Elliott Show (8049087) **2.30** The Agony Experience (6973648) **3.00** Live at Three (25833826) **4.10** The Jerry Springer Show (4327193) **5.05** Lingo (76363919) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (6977464) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (8357071) **6.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (6046667) **7.05** Brookside (8502667) **7.35** Who's Sorry Now? (2639193) **8.05** Rolonda (5603613) **9.00 FILM: Prescription for Murder** (9679629) **11.00-12.00** Erogenous Zone (8343700)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Blockbusters (6716) **5.30** Through the Keyhole (1700) **6.00** All Clued Up (8613) **6.30** Catchphrase (5193) **7.00** The Pyramid Game (9280) **7.30** Hart to Hart (51648) **8.30** Only When I Laugh (4735) **9.00** The Father *Dowling Mysteries* (46087) **10.00** *Treasure* Hunt (49174) **11.00** Rising Damp (14990) **11.30** Duty Free (95025) **12.00** Lou Grant *(51439)* **1.00am** *Father Dowling (12743)* **2.00** Hart to Hart (67946) **3.00** Lou Grant (99120) **4.00** All Together Now (61507) **4.30-5.00** The Black Stallion (60897)

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news, reviews, live concert footage, interviews and the latest music video charts

VH-1

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** Life Style East **8.30** Positive Health Show **9.00** Ebar Jumbe *Mawa* **9.30** *Abhinetri* **10.00** *Tara* **11.00** Manasi **11.30** Dance Mania **12.00** Daraar **12.30pm** Nukkad **1.00 FILM: Mehboob Mera Mastana** **4.00** Ramadan Special and Azaan **4.30** Public Demand **5.00** ZEE Zone **5.30** Alif Laila **6.00** Campus **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** *Kamal Kombination* **7.30** Banegi Apni Baat **8.00** News and Euronews **8.30** Dastaan **9.00** Pathar **10.00** Hit Tin Hit Hai *10.30 Purush Kshetra* **11.00** Mano Ya Na Mano **11.30-12.00** Antakshari

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films as below.

9.00pm Life in the Theatre (1993) (20491629) **11.00 Savage Messiah** (1972) (98755629) **12.45am The Last of Mrs Cheyney** (1937) (58134946) **2.30 Please Don't Eat the Daisies** (1960)

هكذا من الأصل

AMERICAN FOOTBALL 43
Bledsoe's strong-arm tactics crucial to Patriots' game plan

SPORT

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22 1997

TENNIS 46
Pierce raises roof to claim place in the last four

Townsend switched to stand-off

Scotland take wholesale half measures

By Mark Souster

HAVING suggested in the immediate aftermath of defeat by Wales last weekend that a purge of the team was unlikely, the Scotland selectors appear to have had second thoughts. They have resorted to a radical overhaul of the side for the international against England at Twickenham on Saturday week.

The team, which was announced a week early yesterday to provide a longer period of preparation, shows seven changes, two of them positional. Bryan Redpath, Ronnie Eriksson, Derek Stark and Ian Smith are recalled, while Tom Smith, the Watsonians loose-head prop, is the one new cap. Gregor Townsend switches to stand-off half and Tony Stanger to outside centre. Richie Dixon, the Scotland coach, denied the changes were drastic but admitted that the make-up of the England team, which was named on Monday, had a significant bearing on the selectors' deliberations.

For some the surgery has not gone far enough, in that none of the 21-man A squad which emphatically beat Wales has been called upon, not even Alan Tait, whose shortage of top-flight rugby union since his return from league apparently counted against him. Others, such as Peter Wright and Eric Peters, can rightly feel aggrieved, but Arthur Hastie, the manager, said the whole of the A team had been considered and that those players should not be disenchanted at being ignored for now.

The clarion call for the reinstatement of Townsend at No 10 has been heeded and he links up again with Redpath in the half-back partnership which served Scotland well last season, and was only interrupted by the latter's back injury, which prevented him from touring New Zealand. Redpath wins his 22nd cap at the expense of Gary Armstrong, who, along with Craig Chalmers and Scott Hastings, is dropped to the replacements' bench.

Once the situation involving Townsend and Chalmers, which occupied much of the selectors' six-hour meeting on Monday night, had been resolved in the Northampton player's favour, the decision was taken to pick a side which, according to Dixon, "would create the environment in which Gregor would thrive". To that end, Eriksson, a hard-tackling inside centre, wins his third cap and Ian Smith returns at open-side flanker after surgery on a broken thumb, despite his relative inactivity with Gloucester.

Smith's understanding with Townsend, who plays the game close to the gain-line, was a feature of Scotland's approach last season and the two have considerable mutual respect. Smith's recall means that Murray Wallace loses out.

Stanger's move to outside centre is puzzling, although it is a position he has flirted with, not entirely convincingly, for club and country over the past two seasons. A worrying lack of pace in the back three has partly been addressed by the inclusion of Stark; Rowen Shepherd and Kenny Logan survive despite their unhappy experiences at Murrayfield.

Tom Smith forms part of an inexperienced front row. With only three caps between them, this is an area which England will be looking to exploit. Smith, who makes his debut at the age of 25, was born in London and learnt the sport playing mini-rugby with London Welsh rather than attending Sunday school. He replaces David Hilton, an ever-present in the past 19 internationals.

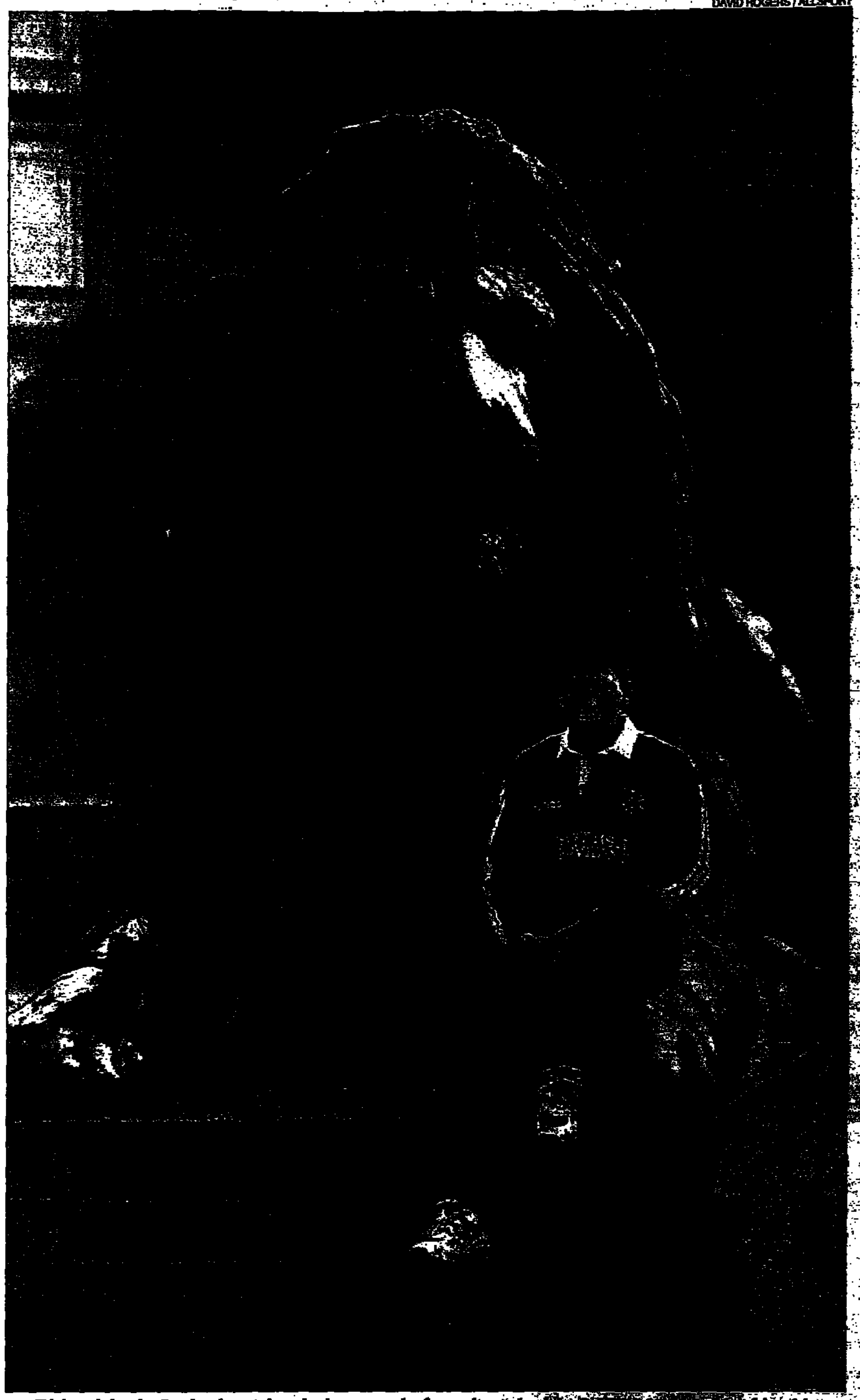
Smith qualifies via Scottish grandparents and resembles David Sole in style and appearance, with a similarly single-minded approach to rugby. Once the doubts about his scrummaging had been answered in New Zealand, Smith's promotion was inevitable. He was also a key part of the Caledonia side which won the Inter-district championship.

Smith signed a full-time contract with the Scottish Rugby Union last autumn. He joined Watsonians last year, having played for Dundee High School Former Pupils, where he caught the eye of David Leslie, who at the time was manager of the under-21 Exiles side. Smith, a man of few words, stands 5ft 9in and weighs 17st 4lb.

Dixon remains upbeat despite the defeat by Wales. "It was a setback in terms of this year's championship," he said. "The first game you always want to play is against France, because even if you don't get it right against them the triple crown is still on. That and the grand slam have gone but the championship is still there if we can win our next three games. To do that we will have to play particularly well, starting at Twickenham, which hasn't been a happy place for us recently."

TEAM

SCOTLAND (v England, February 1): R J S Shepherd (Melrose); D A Stark (Melrose), A G Stanger (Hawick), B R S Eriksson (London Scottish), K M Logan (Stirling County); G P J Townsend (Northampton), B W Redpath (Melrose); T J Smith (Watsonians), D G Ellis (Currie), M J Stewart (Northampton), P Walton (Newcastle), G W Weir (Newcastle), A I Reed (Wasps), I R Smith (Gloucester), R I Wainwright (Watsonians, captain). Replacements: S Hastings (Watsonians), C M Chalmers (Melrose), G Armstrong (Newcastle), D S Munro (Glasgow High/Kelvinside), D I W Hilton (Bath), S J Brotherstone (Melrose).
Referee: P O'Brien (New Zealand).



DAVID ROGERS / ALLSPORT

Wainwright, the Scotland captain, who is among the favourites to lead the British Isles in South Africa this summer, poses with one of Landseer's beasts in Trafalgar Square after the sponsorship launch yesterday

Selectors to name 60-strong shortlist for Lions

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THE first million-pound British Isles rugby union touring party will be put together over the next two months. As the five nations' championship unfolds, so the 35 players who will represent the first professional Lions to make the trip to South Africa will come more sharply into focus.

As the host union, South Africa will bear a substantial share of the £1 million cost, but the Lions will also be sponsored by Scottish Provident, the life assurance company, which will pay £400,000 for the right to have its name on the famous jerseys. The cost of support services will push the company's investment up to around £750,000 in a party that will include a management team of 11 — the biggest yet — including coaches, medical and media staff.

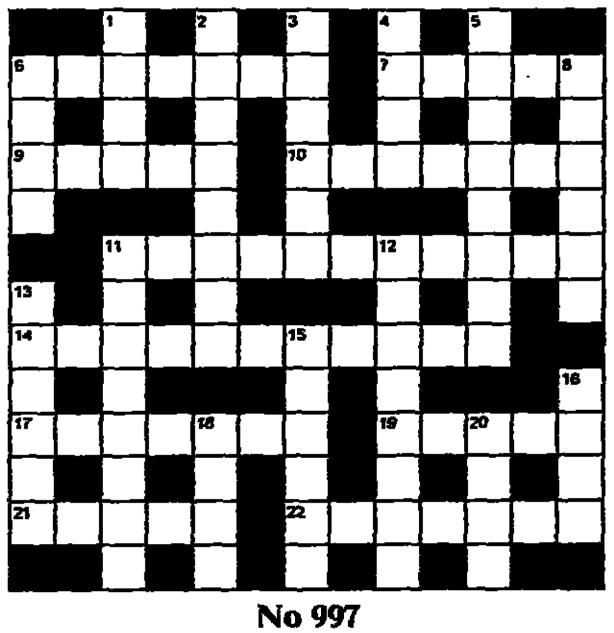
The Lions selectors will watch the next round of five nations' games on February 1, when England play Scotland and Wales entertain Ireland, before announcing a 60-strong squad from which they hope the final party, which will carry three scrum halves and three hookers, will be drawn.

"We have to pick players who are free-thinking, prepared to be positive and not stay in their shells, players who will have to make decisions," Ian McGeechan, who will be coaching his third successive Lions tour, said yesterday. "They must also be players with a hard mental edge because what we face is the equivalent of six five nations' matches, four Super 12 matches and three World Cup finals, all away from home."

The 60 players will meet on February 23 when the contractual arrangements for the tour will be outlined, and the programme of preparation. "It's important that we know early about the availability of players and that they, and their employers — the clubs — are comfortable with what is on offer," Fran Cotton, the Lions manager, said. "My view, after talking to many players, is that money is not the most important factor — this is the pinnacle of a British player's career." The tour party will be announced in early April and leave on May 17.

Underwood picked, page 45

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 997

ACROSS
6 Without depth: a Shakespearian Justice (7)
7 Mark separating list items (5)
9 Confess; allow in (5)
10 Agitated confusion (7)
11 Without much enthusiasm (4-7)
14 In powerless position (slang) (4,1,6)
17 Keenly purposeful (7)
19 Perform better than (5)
21 Guiding strings (5)
22 Official instruction; election-derived authority (7)

DOWN
1 Placid; windless (4)
2 Fleet of boats (8)
3 Small fabric sample (6)
4 Healed-wound mark (4)
5 A god; deathless (8)
6 Squash (fly) (4)
8 Make reference (6)
11 Priestly: sort of hieroglyphics (8)
12 (Travelling) off the ground (8)
13 Pub; one spending too long in it (6)
15 Don; take for granted (6)
16 Central essence (4)
18 Force out (of job) (4)
20 Pitfall; old conveyance (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 996

ACROSS: 1 Amulet 5 Grab 9 Lepanto 10 Motive 11 Badinage 12 Livery 15 Garden 18 Tipstaff 20 Unique 22 Rampage 23 Gaze 24 Sister

DOWN: 2 Mullah 3 Lopsided 4 Tonga 6 Rout 7 Beaver 8 Homely 13 Victuals 14 Intern 16 Awning 17 Effete 19 Pumps 21 Quiz

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 992
In association with BRITISH MIDLAND

ACROSS: 1 Host 3 Kestrel 8 Morocco 9 Tuber 10 Title 11 Winsome 13 Godfather 17 Unmasks 19 Sower 20 Panda 22 Headman 23 Yorkist 24 Undo

DOWN: 1 Humpty 2 Stratagem 3 Know what's what 4 Satan 5 Rub 6 Larder 7 Screed 12 Oarswoman 14 Hussar 15 Dumpty 16 Bronco 18 Swami 21 Nor

1st PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network is J Graham, Colchester, Essex.

2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic network is R Ogilvie, Peebles, Scotland.

All flights subject to availability.

Maldini's defensive manoeuvres sweep Italy back to the future

From Brian Glanville
in Palermo

BENEATH its imposing, even intimidating, crags, the Favorita Stadium and a packed, ecstatic Sicilian crowd await a diminished Northern Ireland: and Cesare Maldini's remodelled Italy.

A remodelled Italy in that, after five years of four in line and pushing up to halfway under the never popular Arrigo Sacchi, back they go in an international football match tonight to the traditional catenaccio, a sweeper behind two markers.

Except that the designated sweeper, Ciro Ferrara, of Juventus, has not played as such for a long while and Paolo Maldini, the manager's son, is expected to be one of the central markers. It is a role that Maldini Jr has yet to fill, though he has, as he pointed out yesterday, played both as a centre back in a four-man defence and, of course, as an attacking left back.

So far he has had a curiously poor season and is only just back again after fracturing a cheekbone. Worse still has been the season of his AC Milan colleague, the other central marker, "Billy" Costacurta, who has been sent off in consecutive games.

But a Northern Ireland team without Iain Dowie or Phil Gray up front, without Magilton and Lennon in midfield, without Gillespie on the right wing, is hardly likely to apply great pressure.

Not that this has ever been its way. When, last November, the Ulstermen achieved their gallant draw against Germany in Nuremburg, they had sweepers both behind and in front of the defence. Bryan Hamilton, the Northern Ireland manager, has called in Jon McCarthy, the Port Vale midfield player, to bolster his weakened squad.

Cesare Maldini, whose only chance this is before England and Wembley on February 12 to put the clock back successfully, said that he is not worried and he clearly is not. If things do not go right at first tonight, then they can be put right later.

The team that he has chosen shows no surprises: round up the usual suspects, with Gianfranco Zola up front, with big Gigi Casiraghi, with Fabrizio Ravanelli likely to be brought on in the second half. Del Piero could come on then, too; he has a stomach upset and, Cesare Maldini said, all will depend on how he looks in training this morning.

"There's no such thing as a friendly game," Gerry Taggart, Northern Ireland's resilient centre back and scorer of their goal in Germany, said. "They're probably only playing us because they've got England and they want to try their system out."

Hamilton has not lost an away match since he took over three years ago. "The Italians, I feel, are a very good side although they have had some indifferent performances recently," he said.

Chelsea's two Italians, Zola and Roberto Di Matteo, seemed particularly cheerful. "It's not a problem to accept one system or another system," Di Matteo said. The great, immediate difference that Maldini has made to his squad is plainly to take off the pressure. As Paolo Maldini pointed out: "He had six years working with Enzo Bearzot." That is to say the revered team manager who took Italy to three World Cups and won one, in 1982.

"Had it been Sacchi who was trying out new tactics," an Italian journalist said, "he would have had them up all last night. With Maldini, you can see for yourselves how casually they are training."

Tommy Wright, the goalkeeper who returned to the Northern Ireland team after years of travail and three serious knee operations, will probably have to supply even more heroics than he did in Nuremberg.

Asked whether he might follow the present English practice of man-marking Zola, Hamilton replied that he had, in Morrow, a player who might do it, but there were so many Italians to be wary of.

Hamilton may well give the 17-year-old Zimbabwean midfield player, Jeff Whiteley, a spell in the second half, though he will not start him.

Thinking of Wembley, Glenn Hoddle, the watching England coach, would doubtless be far less interested in the result than in how far an Italy defence that has stepped back into its tactical past seems to settle down. Cesare Maldini is well aware of Alan Shearer and Les Ferdinand.

ITALY: A Peruzzi (Juventus) — C Ferrara (Juventus) — A Costacurta (AC Milan), P Maldini (AC Milan) — A Di Livio (Juventus), D Baggio (Parma), D Albertini (AC Milan), R Di Matteo (Chelsea), A Carboni (AS Roma) — G Zola (Chelsea), P Casiraghi (Lazio)

Zola: cheerful

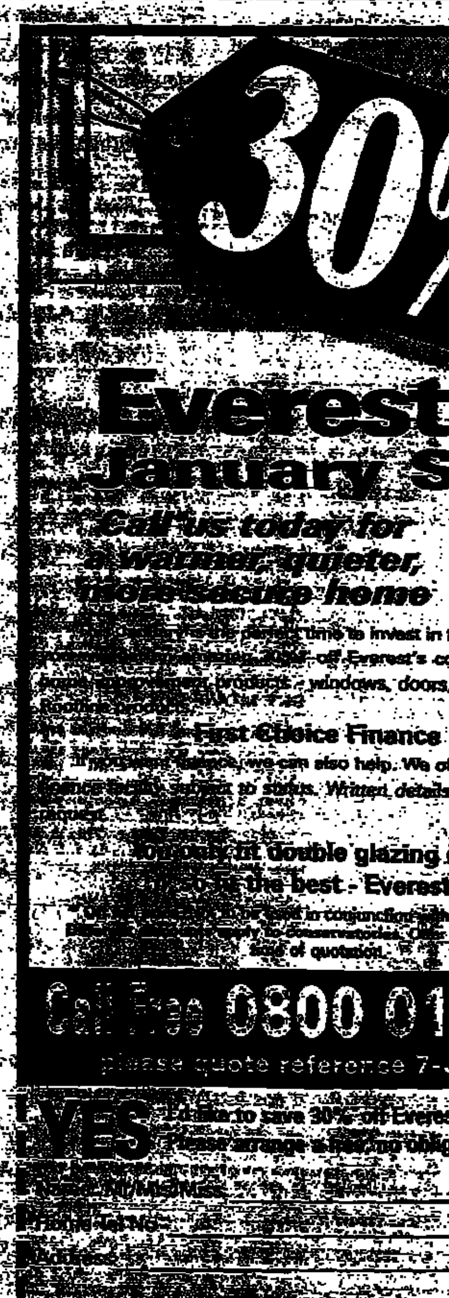
Gough opts to play for Kansas next season

RICHARD GOUGH, the Rangers and Scotland central defender, confirmed yesterday that he will play for Kansas City Wizards in the Major League next season. Two FA Carling Premiership clubs, believed to be Sheffield Wednesday and Southampton, had expressed an interest in signing Gough, 34, who also turned down offers from Japan and Europe.

Bristol City have banned 15 spectators for life for their part in violence after the 1-1 draw with Bristol Rovers in the Nationwide League second division match at Ashton Gate on December 15. A Football Association hearing into the crowd trouble takes place today.

Peter Boizot is expected to be confirmed as the owner of Peterborough United tomorrow. Boizot, 68, founder of the Pizza Express chain, has become the majority shareholder.

Millwall crash, page 25
Stockport ready, page 44



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